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Key charges dropped against North

WASHINGTON (R) — The judge in the Iran-contra case Friday dismissed several charges against former White House aide Oliver North because the government failed to prove the charges beyond a reasonable doubt. The judge also ruled that the government had not proved the charges against North beyond a reasonable doubt. The judge also ruled that the government had not proved the charges against North beyond a reasonable doubt. The judge also ruled that the government had not proved the charges against North beyond a reasonable doubt.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

S. Arabia refuses to take back Amin

DAKAR (R) — Saudi Arabia has refused to take back deposed Ugandan dictator Idi Amin who was expelled Thursday from Zaire, Dakar Radio reported Friday. It quoted diplomats as saying Amin left Zaire Friday morning for an undisclosed destination. Amin and his son arrived in the Senegalese capital Thursday to catch a Saudi Airlines flight to Jeddah where they live in exile. The radio said Saudi Arabia had declared Amin persona non grata. It gave no reason for the decision. Amin left Zaire in the same Zairean government plane which had brought him from Kinshasa, the radio said (see story on page 6).

Bonn opens probe into chemical firm

FRANKFURT (AP) — A prosecutor has opened a criminal probe against the Imhausen-Chemie company, named by U.S. officials as a key supplier of equipment for the alleged Libyan chemical weapons plant. A judicial spokesman said Friday. Hans Frey, a spokesman for the prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe, said the investigation was opened by officials in the nearby city of Offenbach. "That is correct. A criminal investigation has been opened against Imhausen-Chemie," Frey told the AP in a telephone interview. The spokesman said he had no further information about the probe.

No clear proof semtex used in blast

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's official ADN news agency said Friday Czechoslovak and British experts had concluded there was no clear proof that semtex explosives were used to blow up a Pan Am Boeing 747 over Scotland last month. ADN said in a dispatch from Prague: "There is no clear evidence that semtex explosives from Czechoslovakia were used in the attack on the Boeing 747. This was confirmed in talks Czechoslovak experts held with British specialists in London."

PLO confirms Arafat's visit to Finland

HELSINKI (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Friday PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will visit Finland Jan. 16-17. The PLO information office said in a statement Arafat, accompanied by a high-level delegation, would meet President Mauno Koivisto and Prime Minister Harri Holkeri, as well as the foreign minister and other leading politicians. Israel objected when Finland officially invited Arafat last month that the invitation was not "contributing to the Middle East peace process."

Crash plane's engines to go to France

LONDON (AP) — The engines of a crashed Boeing 737 were crated up for shipment Friday to their manufacturer in France where they will be shipped down for checks in the case of the disaster that killed 44 people. The Transport Department said it had nothing fresh to report on the investigation into why the plane's right-hand engine was shut down and the other caught fire during the ill-fated London-to-Belfast flight Sunday night.

Kilbi visits Spain

MADRID (AP) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Kilbi arrived here Friday to discuss a European Economic Community (EEC) initiative to seek a diplomatic breakthrough in the Middle East conflict with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez as Spain begins its six-month EEC presidency. After flying in to Madrid's Barajas airport from Tunis at midday aboard a Spanish air force jet, Kilbi met with Gonzalez for an hour at his Moncloa Palace residence before sitting down to a working lunch with Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordoñez. Spanish diplomatic sources said they expected Kilbi to urge Spain to build momentum within the 12-nation EEC to pressure Israel to accept direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) within the framework of an international peace conference. Spain assumed the rotating EEC presidency Jan. 1.

TASS cannot confirm quake survivor story

MOSCOW (AP) — The official Soviet news agency TASS, which Thursday reported that six Armenians had been found alive under earthquake rubble after 35 days, publicly expressed doubts Friday about the truthfulness of the account. "Regrettably, we are unable so far to confirm with full certainty the authenticity of the reports made by our Armenian colleagues about the 'Leninakan miracle,' nor can we categorically deny them," TASS said. On Thursday, TASS reported that six men had been rescued after being trapped since the Dec. 7 earthquake in the rubble of a nine-story apartment building in Leninakan (see page 8).

King Faisal awards announced

RIYADH (AP) — The King Faisal International Prize Committee announced Friday their annual awards for 1989, with two Americans, a Briton and a German among seven winners that shared the four prizes. A fifth prize, service to Islam, was to be announced Saturday. Dr. Luigi Mastroianni, professor of the University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, shared the prize for medicine with Dr. Robert Geoffrey Edwards, a professor of human reproduction at the University of Cambridge in England. Dr. Ahmed H. Zewail, also an American citizen, of the California Institute of Technology, won in the science category for his pioneering research in the field of spectroscopy and his contribution towards the realization of laser-driven chemical reactions. He shared the prize with Dr. Theodor W. Hänsch, a professor of physics at the University of Munich, West Germany, for his work in laser physics. The prize in the field of Islamic studies went to Dr. Salah Ahmad Al Ali of Iraq, for work in the history of the Islamic Nation and its civilisation. The prize for Arabic literature went to Shaker M. K. Al Saham of Syria and Youssef A. Khalaf of Egypt for literature studies of poets and writers through the end of the third Islamic century.

Army deployed in Jammu after clashes

Srinagar (R) — Troops were deployed in the north Indian city of Jammu and police were ordered to shoot troublemakers after more than 100 people were injured in communal clashes Friday. The clashes were sparked by portraits, carried by Sikh marchers, of the executed Sikh killers of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. A government spokesman said by telephone the clashes started during a march by Sikhs carrying portraits of Sant Singh, who shot Mrs. Gandhi in 1984 and Kehar Singh, convicted of plotting the assassination. Both were hanged in Delhi's Tihar jail a week ago. Militants of Shiv Sena, angered by the portraits and slogans, attacked the Sikhs, the spokesman said. The fighting was halted by police, who opened fire at least four times, the spokesman said.

Sudanese envoy arrives in Addis Ababa

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Sudan, continuing year-old moves to improve relations with Ethiopia, sent a special envoy to President Mengistu Haile Mariam Friday, the official Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) said. The Sudanese Embassy Minister Al Fadel Al Mahdi brought a message from the Khartoum government in bilateral relations. Mahdi told ENA the visit followed up talks last month in Khartoum between Sudanese officials and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi on border and security issues.

European Parliament speaker ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — European Parliament Speaker Lord Plumb left Amman Friday at the end of a three-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi on the latest developments in the region.

Plumb's discussions here covered the latest developments on the Palestinian scene, following Jordan's decision in 1988 to sever legal and administrative relations with the occupied West Bank and the recent resolutions adopted by Palestine National Council's (PNC) which met the conditions for a just and comprehensive peace in the region, the Palestinian-American dialogue and the detente in international relations.

Also reviewed was Jordan's position based on the exchange of land for peace, recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, convening an international peace conference for establishing peace in the region and the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

See page 3 for Plumb's comments at a press conference Thursday

Israeli parliamentarians, PLO debate peace

PARIS (Agencies) — Israeli members of Knesset (MK) and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials were separated by one empty seat at a Paris debate on Middle East peace Friday, described by both camps as an important step towards top-level dialogue.

Israeli parliament members unwillingly bowed to a 1986 law which bars meetings with members of the PLO and avoided direct contact with the Palestinian delegation, but the two groups sat alongside each other in the front row of a French senate chamber.

There were no handshakes and little eye-contact. "It's a ridiculous law but we are lawmakers and we have to abide by it until the day it is changed, and I hope that will be soon," Labour party MK Arye Eliav told Reuters.

Fellow MK Ora Namir, also part of Israel's coalition government, refused to take part in Friday's debate in which Israelis and Palestinians spoke, although she has said it was "shameful" that MKs could not meet the PLO.

The Knesset Wednesday narrowly rejected a bill aimed specifically at the four MKs travelling to Paris which would have limited their parliamentary immunity and made them liable to prosecution.

Nabil Shaat, a member of the Palestine National Council (PNC), told reporters a further meeting was planned between Knesset members and PLO officials at the Dutch capital the Hague Jan. 31.

Eliav, sitting an arm's length from Shaat, said the gap between the Israeli leadership and the PLO was closing. "I know the day will come when the Israeli government will come to talk eye-to-eye with the leadership of the PLO."

Asked in the interview whether Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government accepts Arafat's assurance — endorsed by the PNC — that the PLO has renounced violence as a solution, Waldegrave said: "I believe that Mr. Arafat and his advisers are sincere and I believe that the vote in Algiers was genuine."

He added: "I quite understand that the Israelis may well be sceptical. But the way to respond to that is for them to enter into dialogue and into negotiations."

British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave was expected to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Tunis later Friday.

The meeting, part of a British initiative to try to bring Middle East peace, will be the first ever between Arafat and a British government minister.

Waldegrave, who is a deputy to Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, is responsible for Middle East affairs at the Foreign Office.

Shamir to unveil own 'peace plan' in U.S.

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says he will likely unveil a peace plan during an upcoming visit to Washington but vowed to "swim against the tide" in opposing a role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to a report Friday.

Shamir told the English-language Jerusalem Post he believes the U.S. decision to start a dialogue with the PLO gave new impetus to the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. "I must say that their recent step with the PLO caused grave damage to peace, grave damage to us. I think they prolonged the intifada," Shamir said.

He added that he believed the Palestinians had been on the verge of "giving up" before the United States reversed its long-standing ban on talks with the PLO.

Shamir said he was developing specific peace proposals that included his view of a final settlement for the West Bank and Gaza Strip but refused to reveal his ideas, saying publicity would invite Arab rejection.

"I'm thinking in complete frameworks, but I do not think that it is worthwhile today to make any plan public because this will kill it off... they will say 'no' and that's it," he said.

Shamir said he would make his ideas clear when he visited Washington. Aides said he is expected to travel to Washington in late February or March to meet with U.S. President-elect George Bush.

Shamir was sharply critical of European countries for insisting that Israel speak with the PLO. Shamir said Israel would resist pressure to talk with the PLO.

"This is perhaps our historical destiny, or swim against the tide. But we keep on swimming. We have not drowned yet," he said.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Thursday he would pay a mooted visit to Israel only if Shamir was ready to make concessions to achieve Middle East peace.

"I cannot go to Israel, especially after Shamir announced that he will not make any concessions on land and does not accept the international conference..." Mubarak was quoted as saying by the Middle East News Agency.

"We are not going there just to drink tea or coffee or to spend a good time there. Something tangible must be realised for the Middle East crisis."

Residents said Jewish settlers from the Hebron area rampaged through the market, firing their weapons into the air apparently in anger over a few stone attacks on Israeli cars earlier in the day. They said the settlers warned merchants not to throw stones at

Libya says U.S. jetfighters 'buzzed' its civilian airliner

ROME (Agencies) — Libya says that U.S. fighters "buzzed" a Libyan airliner flying from Tripoli to Istanbul, Libya's official news agency said Friday. But the U.S. said it had no information of the incident.

The report by JANA, quoting a statement from the secretariat of Libya's general popular committee for communications and maritime transport, said the incident occurred Tuesday.

It said the Libyan airlines Boeing 707 had just left Tripoli communications air space and entered Athens communications air space.

The week before, U.S. jets shot down two Libyan military planes over the Mediterranean Sea. U.S. authorities said the attack was in self-defence, but Libya said the U.S. aircraft launched a "premeditated" attack.

The Libyan news agency said that the captain of the Libyan airliner observed a U.S. fighter plane flying fast from right to left and then going behind the airliner Tuesday.

Shortly after, the statement said, two U.S. fighters appeared, one from the right and the second from the left, each about 16 kilometres from the airliner and at about the same altitude. They flew alongside the airliner for about 14 minutes, the statement said.

It added that the captain informed Athens air control. According to JANA, Libya also sent a protest to the Arab Civil Aviation organisation and the International Civil Aviation organisation, condemning the behaviour of the U.S. fighters "which endangered the safety of the airliner," Libya said in its complaint that any repeat of the incident "will be considered a threat against international air navigation over the Mediterranean."

In Washington, a Defence Department spokesman said: "We have checked with appropriate authorities and have no knowledge of such an incident."

Arab League statement

Arab states denounced the United States Thursday for shooting down two Libyan planes last week and urged Washington to refrain from taking any actions against Libya.

A statement issued by Arab League foreign ministers after an emergency meeting condemned the downing of the Libyan planes "as aggression against the security and safety of a league member state and a threat to Arab security and the security of the Mediterranean."

It repeated that Arab states were in complete solidarity with Libya and welcomed Libya's offer to solve its problems with the United States through negotiations.

had reopened a main supply line to the capital of Kabul, cut by heavy snow and rebel attacks.

In addition, it reported that a car bomb allegedly detonated by Afghan rebels in the city of Herat had killed or maimed about 20 people Wednesday.

Under the terms of last April's U.N.-sponsored agreement, Moscow is to pull the remaining half of its troops out of Afghanistan by Feb. 15.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky repeated Soviet assertions Friday that Soviet would adhere to the provisions of the accord.

"This is a decisive period for a settlement of the Afghan question," he told a news conference. "Will a politically constructive spirit prevail or will the opinion for a military solution prevail?"

Vorontsov said earlier this week that Moscow might not be able to keep to the withdrawal deadline.

Vorontsov, who is also first deputy foreign minister, has met rebel leaders and exiled Afghan King Zahir Shah in an attempt to forge an agreement on a new broad-based government in Kabul.

Rebel leaders broke off talks with Vorontsov Monday, saying there would be no more negotiations until all Soviet troops had left the country.

Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Thursday Pakistan wanted a political rather than a military settlement in Afghanistan.

But she said on her return from a historic religious trip to Saudi Arabia that the final decision about the form of a settlement of the war lay with the Afghan people.

"Pakistan thinks it will be very good if a political rather than a military solution is found," Bhutto told a news conference.

She said she expected Moscow to complete the withdrawal of its troops in Afghanistan by the Feb. 15 deadline.

Sheardnadze visits Kabul

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in the Afghan capital Friday, official Radio Kabul said, a month before Moscow is due to complete the withdrawal of its troops from the country.

The week report, monitored in the Pakistan capital Islamabad, said Shevardnadze was met at the airport by government officials.

It gave no further details of the previously announced visit.

Earlier, in a brief dispatch, the Soviet news agency TASS said Shevardnadze was on a working visit to Afghanistan but gave no details.

It reported that Shevardnadze was met by Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil and other officials including Yuli Vorontsov, the Soviet ambassador to Kabul who has conducted negotiations with Afghan rebels.

Earlier, the agency reported heavy fighting between the Afghan rebels and government forces, and said the government

Abdul Jaber to head ESCWA

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A former Jordanian minister of labour, Tayseer Abdul Jaber, was named Friday as executive secretary of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), based in Baghdad. Abdul Jaber, who takes up his post Feb. 1, succeeds Mohammad Said Nahoul. Abdul Jaber was minister of labour and social development from 1984 to 1988 and has held a number of other senior government positions. During the past three years he established and managed his own economic consulting firm in Amman, called the Arab Consulting Centre. Abdul Jaber has degrees in economics, development planning and economic integration from the University of Southern California and Cairo University. He was deputy minister of labour from 1979 to 1983 and served as secretary general of the National Planning Council from 1977 to 1979. Abdul Jaber was economic affairs officer with the U.N. Economic Commission for Western Asia in 1975-76.

2 more Palestinians killed

Settlers storm Hebron market

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An armed group of Jewish settlers clashed with Palestinians in the occupied West Bank Friday, and assailants believed to be Jewish militants smashed a monument to fallen Arab soldiers in Jerusalem.

Israeli cars. The monument to soldiers of the Arab Legion outside the Rockefeller Museum in Arab Jerusalem was partially smashed, police said. Police had no suspects.

An anonymous caller told Israeli army radio the monument was damaged by "lovers of the land of Israel and the Jewish people."

Israeli army Chief of Staff Dan Shomron said earlier this week that army efforts to put down the uprising were failing because the revolt is an expression of nationalistic spirit.

In the Gaza Strip, merchants began a seven-day commercial strike after leaders of the uprising called for the move in slogans painted on walls.

The strike is to protest Israeli raids to collect taxes from Palestinians. Non-payment of taxes is a major tactic of the uprising.

Palestinian prisoners in the Dhahariya military prison south of Hebron sent a letter to their lawyers Friday complaining of harsh conditions and urging more visits. Palestinians said.

The prisoners wrote of daily psychological and physical pressures and health problems due to cold weather. The letter said many detainees in the prison, which houses Palestinians arrested in the uprising, had not seen their lawyers in months.

"You are the window to our people. We ask you not to stop your visits," Palestinians quoted the letter as saying.

In the Gaza Strip, soldiers shot and wounded a 17-year-old protester in the Sha'ti refugee camp, hospital officials said.

Landmark accord at Vienna conference

VIENNA (AP) — A landmark human rights and security accord was informally accepted Friday by all 35 nations at the Helsinki review conference, but a Greek-Turkish dispute still blocked agreement on new East-West arms talks, diplomats said.

Residents said Jewish settlers from the Hebron area rampaged through the market, firing their weapons into the air apparently in anger over a few stone attacks on Israeli cars earlier in the day. They said the settlers warned merchants not to throw stones at

Agreement on the human rights and security accord came after more than two years of tough East-West bargaining at the Helsinki review conference, which opened in November 1986.

That dispute has prevented negotiators from the 16 NATO and seven Warsaw Pact nations from initialing a mandate on new East-West talks on reducing conventional troops and weapons across Europe.

The mandate is supposed to be included in the final accord of the Helsinki conference.

The conference is supposed to wind up next week with a three-day closing ceremony attended by foreign ministers from all the signatories of the 1975 Helsinki final act — the Soviet Union, the United States, Canada and all European nations except Albania.

If the impasse between Greece and Turkey is broken, the final document, including the mandate, could be accepted in a special public meeting Saturday, diplomats said.

Turkey had agreed with the Soviet Union that the Eastern Mediterranean port of Mersin, which is close to the border with Syria, should not be included in the zone for the new East-West arms talks.

The key test, however, will be whether the Soviet Union and its allies will go along with the new commitments allowing greater freedom of movement, information, religion and monitoring of government compliance with human rights accords.

The Vienna document "refined and defined the humanitarian undertakings in far greater detail than ever possible before," noted Canadian Ambassador William Bauer, who played a prominent part in Western efforts to get good human rights agreements.

Reforms in the Soviet Union played a major role in securing the agreement, he and other Western diplomats noted.

"We came with a clear concept of what we wanted if we were to

Bush wants no 'kiss and tell' books from cabinet

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President-elect George Bush, out to avoid some of Ronald Reagan's problems, said Thursday he wants his cabinet to think big, challenge the system, maintain lofty ethical standards and forswear "kiss and tell" books.

Bush issued his orders after bringing his first team to full strength by nominating retired navy admiral James Watkins to be energy secretary and former Education Secretary William Bennett to lead the government's war on drug abuse.

"I'm going to tell them to think big, I'm going to tell them to challenge the system, I'm going to tell them to... adhere to the highest ethical standards (and) I'm going to tell I don't like kiss and tell books," he said when a reporter asked what he would tell

Bush has chosen the following persons to serve in his cabinet, subject to Senate confirmation: James Baker — secretary of state; Nicholas Brady — treasury; John Tower — defence; Richard Thornburgh — attorney general; Robert Mosbacher — commerce; Lauro Cavazos — education; Clayton Yeutter — agriculture; Jack Kemp — housing and urban development; Louis Sullivan — health and human services; Manuel Lujan — interior; Elizabeth Dole — labour; Samuel Skinner — transportation; Edward Derwinski — veterans; James Watkins — energy; John Sununu — White House chief of staff.

Carbomb kills six in Beirut

Thousands trapped in militia crossfire in South Lebanon

KFAR FILA, Lebanon (Agencies) — Thousands of civilians caught in the cross-fire of bitter militia fighting covered in their homes in South Lebanon Friday as a carbomb blasted the suburbs of Beirut to the north.

Rival militias fought across the battered southern hilltop town of Jubah, where many of its 6,000 inhabitants remained huddled for safety behind stone and concrete walls.

In the southern suburbs of Beirut, a carbomb caused dozens of casualties when it exploded at 3:15 p.m. (1315 GMT). The Voice of Lebanon radio said it killed six people.

The bomb went off as followers of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah movement paraded through the streets to protest against the bitter fighting between Hizbollah and its rival Amal militia in southern Lebanon.

Eyewitnesses said, however, the demonstrators were unscathed by the blast, which hit local residents.

As the fighting in South Lebanon went into its 14th day, Iran issued its strongest condemnation so far of the conflict which has killed at least 116 people and wounded 130 in the past two weeks.

"Both (sides) are committing murder and the Islamic Republic (of Iran) is disgusted," Iranian Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani was quoted as saying by Iran's IRNA news agency.

Mediation efforts by Iran and Syria have so far failed to halt a

of violence as Amal and Hizbollah battle it out for dominance over Lebanon's 1.5 million Shi'ites.

Amal called a strike Friday in areas it controlled, shutting shops, businesses and schools to protest against what it said were Hizbollah atrocities in the fighting in the south.

The two groups, with opposing religious and political affiliations, are fighting for control of the Qalamun area, a staging area for guerrilla attacks on Israel and its self-declared border "security zone."

Witnesses said rival gunmen in Jubah were fighting from abandoned houses and on rooftops across the maze of narrow, twisting alleys in the small market town.

They said food was running low and water and electricity had been cut.

"Corpses are littering the alleys... it is ferocious battle," said one militiaman who returned from the town.

Friday's explosion in Beirut triggered fires in Bir Al Abed's Roweis district that gutted shops and parked cars, according to a police spokesman.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the car bombing in Beirut, the first in Lebanon this year.

There were 20 carbomb explosions in Lebanon last year that killed 116 people and wounded 488, by police count.

The blast occurred half an hour after thousands of Hizbollah supporters demonstrated against Amal, the police spokesman said.

The spokesman said Hizbollah's demonstrators, including hundreds of women clad in the black chadors that cover them from head to toe, had disappeared from the streets when the carbomb went off.

"If it happened during the demonstration, it would have been a much greater disaster with plenty of more casualties," said the spokesman.

The placard-wielding protesters chanted "Death to America, the great Satan" and "Death to Beirut" as they marched through the street of Bir Al Abed after Friday's noon prayers.

Hizbollah called the parade to protest what it termed "the murderous military adventure" by Amal's chief, Nabih Berri to evict Hizbollah from South Lebanon.

Witnesses said the bomb gouged a deep crater, wrecked about 20 cars, shattered windows in nearby buildings and sent balcony railings crashing into the streets.

Reuter photographer Jamal Al Saidi who was at the scene in the Roweis district said: "It was a very big explosion. There is a big fire raging in the area. Black smoke is shrouding the scene. There is a hysterical state among people there."

Baz: Israeli coalition precarious, powerless

CAIRO (R) — A top Egyptian official has rejected in advance what he said was a probable Israeli plan for "autonomy" and elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Osama Al Baz, political adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, also said in an interview published Friday that Israel's coalition government was unlikely to last and there could be fresh elections this year.

He said he expected Israel to announce proposals aimed at diverting attention from peace efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Israel will for example propose holding elections in the occupied territories to choose Palestinian representatives with whom it can negotiate," Baz told the French-language Journal d'Egypte.

"But why elections in the middle of uprising and when the Palestinian people has always stressed that its exclusive representative is the PLO?" he asked.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted Friday as

saying he might produce "certain ideas, or even more than that," during a visit to the United States but not a formal peace plan.

Shamir said the Arabs would almost inevitably reject a ready-made plan from him and he saw no possibility for elections in the occupied territories in the current circumstances.

Baz said Israel had failed in efforts to recruit "puppets" in the occupied territories.

He said Israel might announce a sort of "autonomy" in the West Bank and Gaza but this would be "a ridiculous comedy in the current context and, in the best hypothesis, a poultice on a wooden leg."

Baz also said Shamir's coalition, formed last month after November elections, was "more precarious than its predecessor, powerless to take decisions on the big political and other issues, and cannot last."

He added: "It is not excluded that during 1989 new legislative elections will take place, with or without changes in the electoral system."

Libya returns body of American pilot

ROME (Agencies) — Libya turned over the body of a U.S. pilot killed in the 1986 U.S. raid on Tripoli to a Vatican envoy, and the airman's remains were flown to Rome Friday, the Holy See announced.

The body was to be handed over to U.S. officials upon the arrival of the Libyan military plane at Rome's Ciampino airport, said the Vatican. It added it was acting as an intermediary for "humanitarian reasons."

Joaquin Navarro, chief Vatican spokesman, said the papal representative in Tripoli, Monsignor Giovanni Martinelli, accepted the remains and accompanied them on the flight.

The official Libyan news agency JANA, monitored in London and Rome, did not identify the pilot in reports Friday. But JANA said last Dec. 24 that Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi was offering to return the body of captain Paul Lawrence 31, of San Francisco, California.

Hoss welcomes Arab League move to end Lebanese strife

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The civilian cabinet in Lebanon's dual government Friday welcomed a new effort by foreign ministers of Arab states to help in ending the country's 13-year civil war.

"We welcome the Arab initiative... we place all our capabilities at the disposal of the Arab committee," acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, who heads the civilian cabinet, said in a statement.

Foreign ministers from Arab League decided Thursday at a meeting in Tunis to set up a seven-member committee — chief diplomats from six Arab states and Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klifi — to help the warring Lebanese factions resolve their problems.

"We hope the new Arab initiative succeeds in its mission... and reaches positive results which will help us end the crisis," Hoss said.

Lebanon has had no president, no speaker of parliament and two rival governments since Amin Gemayel ended his six-year term as head of state last September. Its army is also divided.

A military cabinet headed by army commander Michel Aoun has been struggling for power with the Hoss government in Lebanon's deepest political crisis since independence in 1941.

A statement from the foreign ministers' meeting in Tunis gave no indication when the contact group would start work.

Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz of Iraq said at the end of the meeting in Tunis that an Arab summit would be held in the near future on the Lebanon question.

"There was unanimity on the necessity to have such a summit as soon as possible," Aziz told reporters, adding that no date had been set.

In the meantime, the foreign ministers created

the special committee and gave it the mission of making "contact with all of the Lebanese parties" to get their ideas on "the solution to the Lebanese crisis."

Aziz said the council "prefers not to broach the fundamental problems of the Lebanese crisis," which he said could only be dealt with by the chiefs of state.

Consequently, he said, the recommendations that will be adopted by the committee, after examination by the council, should be put before a summit.

The committee is headed by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, and includes the foreign ministers from Tunisia, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria and Sudan.

Lebanon wants UNIFIL to stay

Lebanese leaders are unanimous in wanting the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to be renewed, U.N. envoy Marrack Gouding said Thursday.

"Everyone has told me that they value UNIFIL's presence in Lebanon. All the leaders have confirmed their desire that the mandate of UNIFIL should be extended," said Gouding, assistant secretary general for political affairs.

He was speaking after meeting Aoun, head of the military administration. He earlier met Hoss in west Beirut.

Official sources said Aoun told Gouding that he would send a memorandum asking the U.N. Security Council to extend UNIFIL's mandate for another six months.

Denktash outlines vision of settlement in Cyprus

Following are major excerpts from a speech made by Rauf Denktash, president of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus to the Cypriot Greek Community broadcast on Jan. 6 on the Turkish Cypriot Radio.

"I want to address you tonight in a special way. On Monday we start the second round of the talks with your leader Mr. Vassiliou. As you know, in the first round we expressed our respective views.

An exchange of views of this size has been possible for the first time since 1977. To talk with the Turkish Cypriot side and to come to terms with them was no part of Mr. Kyprianou's policy. He preferred to maintain the title of 'The Legal Government of Cyprus.' And thus he wasted 10 whole years that were your loss.

For 5 years from 1963 to 1968 Makarios, too, evaded talks with the Turkish side.

"I am one of those who believe that one cannot proceed to the future without reckoning the past... If we, as Turkish Cypriots, are to reenter into a political partnership with you, we have to consider what you as our partners did to us in the past. We have to find a way so as to prevent you from repeating your past performance, and we have to insist on the essential guarantees for the future."

"I daresay you would have done the same if you had been in our position. 'Some say 'Let us forget the past and look to the future'. Mr. Vassiliou says it to me quite often.

"We do not remember the past in order to arouse enmity towards you. Every household cannot forget its sufferings because it has had its fair share of unforgettable pain, and every Turkish Cypriot is preoccupied with the question: 'If there is a settlement with the Greek Cypriots will they attempt to repeat what they did to us in the past?' For that reason he wants effective guarantees for the future."

"If you are not aware of these concerns and suspicions of the Turkish Cypriots, then you cannot possibly understand the necessity for the protective measures we seek for the future. What we really want is for you to understand us. Indeed, we cannot reach a mutual result if we fail to appreciate our respective concerns and opinions."

The Turkish Cypriots are asking the question whether you

will be honouring the new settlement.

"They are right. They are perfectly right, because nobody but nobody among you dared to say 'Stop' to your leaders who declared 'No good' those agreements which had been mutually signed with great enthusiasm in 1960. The 1960 agreements gave us partnership rights, precluded the island's union with another country and contained guarantees making the independence permanent. Those agreements, together with the constitution, were declared 'dead and buried' and the government, which was legal so long as the two peoples participated and worked jointly, was usurped by force of arms."

We claim that the government in the South, which is one hundred per cent Greek Cypriot, is not 'the rightful Government of Cyprus.' That is a fact legally, morally and from the point of view of realities. For the past 25 years, there has been no Government representing the two peoples in Cyprus. Your leaders, who by force of arms broke away from the joint legal partnership Government, denied the Turkish Cypriots all their rights until 1974. After 1974 we effected an exchange of population and thus saved ourselves from being pushed around and looked down upon. In 1975 we set up the federated state. Your leaders did not recognise that either. We said: 'Form your own federated state and let us then discuss the powers of the central government and other questions.' They rejected our proposal and said they were the government of the whole of Cyprus. We waited until 1983.

"When we realised that with their intransigent attitude and policy they had no intention of sharing authority with us, and reaching a settlement, we had to proclaim the TRNC. Neither did they recognise that."

"But in Cyprus we exist, just as you exist. If there is going to be peace, we will make it together — we and you, coming to terms and compromising under equal conditions."

In this context, there are bilateral agreements to show us the way.

"Unilateral decisions can never lead us anywhere.

International conferences cannot solve the Cyprus problem in our name."

"We will solve it and we have the prescription how to do it."

"In the partnership republic we established jointly we could live in an intermixed manner. Your leaders did not give a chance to coexistence because they considered our rights, powers and guarantees an obstacle to Enosis. After 11 years of torture we gathered in two zones. This fact was taken as a basis in 1977 and a bizonal federation agreement concluded."

Population moved from one side to the other. Since 1955, that was the third migration for the majority of the Turks.

We wanted no more migration, no more friction.

"I am told that you are afraid Turkey will invade the south of the island too. I don't believe that because you know very well that Turkey has no such plan. If Turkey had such a policy she would have taken advantage to her on a silver platter back in 1974. It would have been child's play to apply the plan then... and if your leaders had any such concern they would have grasped like a life-saver the Turkish guarantee which still they keep on rejecting. They keep on rejecting for the simple reason that these are the very guarantees which hinder Enosis in every way... If you had any such concern, you would have agreed to a reciprocal non-aggression treaty, which I proposed several times, and in the easy atmosphere created by such treaty we could have proceeded to a reciprocal reduction of arms and troops. Instead, you exhibit to us the arms which have cost you millions of Cyprus pounds. You surrender these arms into the complete control of Greek Generals and make them boast that you will one day hoist the Greek flag in Kyrenia. You are trying to intimidate us by recruiting women and Maronites into your national guard."

"You do not appreciate that Cyprus is our home country, too, and that to protect the island is as much our right as it is yours."

"I thought that if we could talk about the past with an open heart, we could arrange a better future for all of us. So, I shall consider myself happy if by this address I have been able to make you ponder, even if just a little."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Palestine to open embassy in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — The newly-proclaimed Palestinian state will open an embassy in Malaysia next month, an official of the ruling Malay Party said Friday. The embassy would be opened during the visit of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official Farouk Qaddumi, the official Bernama news agency quoted Mustafa Yaakub, the United Malays National Organisation Party's head of international affairs, as saying.

Maghreb summit to be held in Rabat

TUNIS (R) — The heads of state of the five Maghreb countries will meet in Rabat in the next few weeks, Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali has told his cabinet. Ben Ali said Thursday that personal representatives of the leaders of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania would first hold a preparatory meeting in Tunis, a cabinet statement published Friday said. The summit in the Moroccan capital would be the first since June last year, when the heads of state met near Algiers and agreed to work towards creating a greater Arab Maghreb.

Van Den Broek to visit Iran

THE HAGUE (AP) — Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek will visit Iran from March 6-9, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday, ending several months of uncertainty over when the projected trip would take place. No agenda has been announced for the visit, the first to Iran by a Dutch foreign minister since 1974. However, a key issue during the trip is likely to be Iran's human rights record and recent reports that the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini continues to execute political opponents.

Iraq reveals N. Yemenis fought against Iran

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein revealed Thursday that a North Yemeni brigade fought with Iraqi troops in Baghdad's eight-year war against Iran. Baghdad Radio said Hussein decorated North Yemeni members of the Brigade of Arabism and 53 of its soldiers killed in battle with one of Iraq's highest awards. It quoted the president as telling the brigade that its members fought to defend Iraq because they felt it was their national duty to defend Arab land threatened by Iran. "When the Yemenis fought together with us, we did not look at them as one brigade but we saw in them as a presence for the whole Arab Nation," he said. He said he highly appreciated the decision of North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh to send troops to Iraq.

Algeria threatens to bar Britons

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has threatened to turn away more British visitors if Britain discriminates against Algerians by denying them entry, the official news agency APS said. It said that numerous Algerians were mistreated while held overnight in jail in Britain before being sent back. A British diplomatic source said about 20 Britons were refused entry at Algiers airport last year but the situation seemed to have improved in the last two months. APS said the Britons were barred in retaliation for a sudden increase in the number of Algerians stopped from entering Britain. Citizens do not need visas to travel between Britain and Algeria.

Bhutto returns home

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto returned Thursday from a Muslim pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia and talks with King Fahd. Bhutto told reporters at Islamabad airport that she and the Saudi monarch had an "extended" discussion on the Afghanistan situation, as well as Palestine, the Iran-Iraq war and Lebanon. She did not say whether the two countries would pressure Afghan rebels to accept a political settlement before Soviet forces leave Afghanistan, scheduled for Feb. 15.

ADC: AIPAC violated U.S. election law

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. lobby for Israel violated American election law by failing to register as a political action committee, an Arab-American organization said Thursday. The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) announced the filing of a complaint with the Federal Election Commission (FEC), asking for an investigation of the activities of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and 25 pro-Israel political action committees (PACs). The complaint alleges that AIPAC made illegal contributions to federal election campaigns, failed to disclose its affiliation with the 25 pro-Israel PACs and made excessive campaign contributions in 1984, 1986 and 1988.

Eritrean rebels warn Ethiopia

ABU DHABI (AP) — An Eritrean rebel leader Thursday warned Ethiopia that the civil war will move inside its territory if it goes ahead with a partition plan of the Eritrean southern province. "Eritrean commandos will move the war inside Ethiopia and its capital in particular if the Ethiopian regime goes ahead with its plan to divide Eritrea," said Mohammed Osman Abu Bakr, Gulf representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front, the unified group for the rebels. In a statement here Thursday, Abu Bakr said the United States, West Europe and the Soviet Union have called on Addis Ababa to seek a solution acceptable by all parties. President Mengistu Haile Mariam proposed the plan for dividing the Eritrean province into two states — one for Muslims and one for Christians — as an attempt to end 26 years of civil war.

Boycott panel drops U.S., Japanese firm

DAMASCUS (AP) — The 60th meeting of the Arab Boycott of Israel Committee ended Thursday with a decision to drop the Japanese Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation and the American Baxter Travenol Laboratories Inc. from its blacklist, while adding the first Soviet firm among others. The decision to drop certain companies from the list will be in effect after it is confirmed that these companies stop doing business with Israel, the committee said in its announcement. Others taken off the blacklist include the German Accumulatorenfabrik Sonnenchein GMBH, Osborn International GMBH, Pleuger Unterwasserpumpen GMBH and the Swiss Moutier Machines Holding (MMH) and Tornos Bechler S.A. It also dropped the American Turbine Services Ltd and Konica Camera Corporation, India's Micro Labs Private Ltd, Italy's Nuova Fulgorcavi SPA Fulgorcavi SPA and Holland's Sonnenchein Nederland B.V. The committee office also said a partial boycott was also called for against a Russian firm for the first time: Licensing, a subsidiary of the Pierre Cardin. The firm's contacts with Israel could not be immediately confirmed.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
16:45 Arabic series
17:10 Educational programme
17:30 The Friends
18:00 News summary
18:05 Message from Iraq
18:15 A play by Shakespeare
19:10 Local programme
19:30 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local series
21:30 Programme review
21:45 Local programme
22:45 Arabic play
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Play continued

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Coteau: A la Redecouverte du Monde

19:00 News in French
19:15 La Vie En Paque
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
21:10 Alfred Hitchcock
21:35 Saturday Variety Show
21:45 News in English
22:00 Feature film: "One cooks, the other doesn't"

PRAYER TIMES

6:51 Fajr
11:45 Sunrise
12:45 Dhuhr
14:33 Asr
16:57 Maghreb
18:18 Isha

CHURCHES

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 63740.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 62541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 62543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 77131.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Assiout International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be partly cloudy with a chance for scattered rain and wind will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, it

will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate wind and calm sea.
Min./max. temp.
Amman 5 / 10
Aqaba 5 / 18
Dhahran 3 / 11
Jordan Valley 8 / 18
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11, Aqaba 18. Humidity readings: Amman 50 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Hamid 677436
Dr. Nabil Al Maridi 615338
Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa 732056
Dr. Sa'ad Abu Hatab 638462
First pharmacy 661912
Fogdows pharmacy 778336

Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 636072
Al Salam pharmacy 636790
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsat pharmacy 637660
IRBID:
Dr. Munther Al Sheikh Saleh (—)
Al Shanaa pharmacy 985417
ZARQA:
Dr. Azmi Khalil (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Rescue 63041
Civil Defence Emergency 63041
Defence Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 198, 891228
Blood Bank 778035
Highway Police 943602
Traffic Police 630141
Public Security Directorate 656000 / 685111
Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information 12
(directory assistance)
Overseas Calls 17
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Rajab 661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 771111
Radio Jordan 771111
Water Authority 681010
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 648411, 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-3320
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Center 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Alkhal Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malha, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsat 6641714
Shamsat Hospital 691391
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munasher Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdas 6612757
Al-AM, Abdal 661646
Italian, Al-Muhajireen 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77111/25
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 894611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 6622050
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 0946338
Zarqa National Hospital 09491071
Jbn Sina Hospital 0946732
IRBID:
Sidona Banna Hospital 0272525
Gusak Catholic Hospital 6224050
Jbn Al-Nafes Hospital 02474188
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital 03914111

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in lbs per kg

Apples 250 / 400
Bananas 230 / 300
Broom (Makhamm) 300 / 250
Custard 300 / 400
Broad bean 250 / 650
Cabbage 140 / 100
Carrots 200 / 150
Cauliflower 200 / 150
Cucumbers 600 / 500
Dates 300 / 400
Eggplant (dum) 140 / 90
Lentils 200 / 150
Eggplant (mash) 240 / 720
Garlic 180 / 120
Grapefruit 240 / 120
Marrow (large) 240 / 120
Marrow (small) 240 / 120
Orange (French) 240 / 120
Orange (Shamoun) 250 / 300
Orange (Kass) 220 / 150
Onion (dry) 220 / 150
Pepper (dark) 240 / 120
Pepper (sweet) 240 / 120
Potato 250 / 200
Spinach 220 / 150
Tomatoes 240 / 120



BILATERAL RELATIONS: Japan's Ambassador to Jordan Makoto Watanabe was received Thursday by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Japanese cooperation in different fields. Lawzi presented his condolences on the death of Emperor Hirohito.



A government-appointed ministerial committee Thursday tours the Jordan Valley region to assess damage caused to crops by the recent frost wave (Photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

Ministerial committee assesses damage caused by frost in Jordan Valley

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra, J.T.) — A three-member ministerial committee on Thursday toured areas of the Jordan Valley region affected by the recent wave of frost and is preparing a detailed report on the extent of crop damage to be submitted to the council of ministers.

Ministers of Agriculture Yusef Hamdan Al Jaber, Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Zuhair Ajlouni made the inspection tour accompanied by local officials and agricultural experts and representatives of the local farmers. They inspected the crops and fruit trees which sustained damages in the recent bad weather conditions and talked to farmers and vegetable growers on the current situation.

Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi, who accompanied the ministers on their tour, said that the frost wave caused severe damage to crops specially bananas, but the damage was most extensive in Wadi Al Yabis and Adasieh in the north.

Lawzi said that the southern regions sustained less damage. A total of 18,500 dunums planted with vegetables and bananas were dealt a severe blow as a result of the frost, Lawzi

said. But he added that marrows, potatoes, sweet pepper, eggplant, beans and bananas which are the main crops grown in the valley were hardest hit.

Lawzi said even crops grown under plastic cover and in greenhouses were severely affected because temperatures on some days dropped below zero Celsius especially at Wadi Al Yabis.

He noted that in some areas between 20 and 50 per cent damage was caused, which means that crops can continue to grow but would not yield good harvest.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Meteorology are now maintaining close cooperation to forecast weather conditions and provide assistance and guidance to the farmers to

minimise the damage that might result from future bad weather conditions. Lawzi noted. He urged farmers to abide by the Ministry of Agriculture's cropping pattern systems and to grow certain types that would be the least affected by frost specially in the northern parts of the Jordan Valley.

The Agriculture Credit Corporation (ACC) announced in the past week that it intends to help Jordan Valley farmers make up for their losses incurred as a result of the damage to their crops. It announced that a rescheduling of farmers loans will be made and the government will be presented with a full report on the extent of damage.

3,000 Jordanians study in Soviet Union

MOSCOW (Petra) — The cultural attaché at the Jordanian embassy here has reported that nearly 3,000 Jordanian students are presently enrolled at various Soviet universities and that nearly 120 Jordanians are annually enrolling at different educational institutions in the Soviet Union.

Ghazi Balqaz said that Jordanian students are studying at nearly 50 universities and higher institutes of learning and that he was keeping in touch with them to identify their problems and ensure their well-being. Most of the students are pursuing studies in medicine, mechanical and aeronautical engineering, Balqaz noted.

He said that most students face the problem of accommodation, since they all want to live and study in main cities which can provide very limited lodging facilities. In Moscow, where most of these students are gathered, there is only one single hotel which offers lodging for students, and so at least four students find themselves living in one hotel room due to the lack of sufficient space, Balqaz added.

The Ministry of Education continues to send students on scholarships to acquire higher education in the Soviet Union, and during their stay students must not get married to non-Jordanians, according to Ministry of Education regulations, Balqaz pointed out.

He said that in the event a student violated this rule his scholarship would be immediately terminated and he would be requested to pay all the sums spent on his education.

According to Balqaz, a student in the Soviet Union does not need more than \$600 annually and he advised parents not to send their children excessive sums since, he said, this will adversely affect their studies.

Hindawi reports to UNESCO on Jordan's educational reforms

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi Thursday returned home after taking part in an international educational conference organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Geneva.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister said that he submitted to the conference a plan being carried out by the Ministry of Education here to modernise and promote education in the Kingdom in implementation of a national educational conference held here in 1987.

The minister's address to the conference also contained an outline of Jordan's achievements in the educational fields and included an appeal to the international community to take measures that would ensure that Palestinians living under Israeli rule enjoy full rights to free education.

Jordan's views presented to the conference, Hindawi noted, were backed by all delegates in general

and the Arab representatives in particular who requested that UNESCO keep Jordan's address as a reference document.

During his stay in Geneva, Hindawi met with UNESCO's director general to discuss Jordan's cooperation with the organisation and UNESCO's programmes to safeguard Jordan's cultural heritage. The UNESCO chief has expressed desire to come to Jordan and meet with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to discuss future cooperation, Hindawi said.

He said that his stay in Geneva offered him the chance to meet with other ministers attending the conference to discuss bilateral cooperation in educational fields. Hindawi said that his meeting with his French counterpart was devoted to prospects for upgrading the teaching of French language in Jordan and France's assistance to the Kingdom in training school children in the use of computers.

Minister urges active media role

Khasawneh, newsmen visit Sahab Industrial City

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) plans to establish industrial cities in Salt, Karak, and Tafleh in view of the increased demand on industries in the Kingdom and in the wake of successes by industrial businesses in the Sahab Industrial City on the outskirts of Amman, JIEC Director General Fayez Suheimat announced Thursday.

Speaking during a tour of industrial businesses at Sahab by Minister of Information Hani Al Khasawneh and representatives of the press and information media, Suheimat said that industrial cities were needed to contribute to the development of local communities, create new jobs that would reduce unemployment and attract people away from major cities.

The Sahab Industrial City, which was established in 1980, provides facilities for investors, basic services and utilities, and has a vocational training centre set up with the help of the European Community to turn out skilled workers for industry.

Since the government issued its economic measures last August, there has been a noticeable increase in the demand to set up industrial businesses in the Kingdom, Suheimat noted.

He said that the JIEC has been providing buildings at reduced rent, infrastructure and back up facilities to encourage investors. He said that since last August's measures a total of 37 new industries sprang up at Sahab Industrial City with a total capital of JD 12 million. The Sahab Industrial

City, Suheimat added, now houses 140 industries with an overall capital of JD 67 million, providing jobs for 4,000 people.

Factories set up at Sahab, Suheimat pointed out, are for food, electrical appliances, plastic, leather and rubber products, chemical and textile industries, furniture, paper and medicine, among others.

In 1988, Sahab Industrial City witnessed the start of 57 industries against six in 1982, which prompted the JIEC to embark on the second stage in Sahab, Suheimat said. He said that the JIEC has also started work on an industrial city in Irbid near the University of Science and Technology.

The minister of information spoke at a gathering of the press during the tour underlining the role of the press in spreading and promoting public awareness on the need to develop national industries. Jordanians have no alternative but to build their own economy and invest in industries. Jordanian industry has proved that it can compete with that of foreign countries, depending on local skilled manpower and determination to enhance the national economy, the minister asserted.

Suheimat presented the minister with the JIEC shield in recognition of the information media's contributions to the general effort to promote the national industry. Later, Suheimat, accompanied the minister and representatives of the press and radio and television on a tour of Sahab's main industries.

Jordan, Egypt conclude extradition protocol

CAIRO (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt have concluded a protocol, paving the way for bilateral cooperation in combating drugs and the extradition of criminals.

The protocol was signed in Cairo by Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali and officials at the Egyptian Ministry of Interior. According to the Jordan

News Agency, Petra, the accord will pave the way also for further facilities for travel between Jordan and Egypt and entry of trucks loaded with goods to either country.

Majali on Thursday met officials at the Interior Ministry in Cairo and was briefed on its programmes and development of security services.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

PSD CHIEF RETURNS: Public Security Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali returned home Friday after a week-long visit to Cairo where he took part in the Second Arab Strategic Conference, and concluded an agreement for security cooperation with Egypt. Under the accord Jordan and Egypt will cooperate in the field of combatting narcotics and extradition of criminals. Majali also held talks with his Egyptian counterpart on means of organising the movement of people and vehicles between the two countries.

HUNTING SEASON BEGINS: The Hunting Committee of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature has announced the opening of the hunting season in Al Azraq region effective Friday Jan. 13, 1989. The season ends in late March and includes hunting ducks, geese, and squirrels. The committee urged those willing to practice the hunting hobby to check with it so as to get instruction and information related to hunting in Al Azraq region. (Petra)

GRAPHIC ART: A six-day Yugoslav graphic art exhibition was opened Thursday at the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition contains 38 pieces of art depicting various aspects of Yugoslav life.

AGRICULTURE COURSE CONCLUDES: A seven-day course on the basic principles of agriculture was concluded Thursday at the Madaba centre for social services. The twenty participants attended lectures and practical exercises on agricultural projects, gardening, pruning of trees, and breeding of poultry. (Petra)

30,000 SAPLINGS: The agriculture department in Karak Governorate has finished digging about 30,000 holes in various forestation areas so as to plant them with various types of saplings. (Petra)

HOTEL MARKETING: Thirty employees from hotels in Amman, Aqaba, and Petra, in addition to a number of Tourism Ministry employees have participated in a three-day seminar on hotel marketing which concluded Thursday in Amman. (Petra)



Lord Plumb (centre) Thursday addresses a press conference

'Shamir has no peace plan'

Lord Plumb ends visit, pledges Europe will pursue peace efforts

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The president of the European Parliament reaffirmed Thursday that the Middle East issue will be "very high" on the European Parliament's agenda and all efforts will be geared towards bringing peace to the region.

Addressing reporters at a press conference, Lord Plumb said that the European Parliament and the council of ministers will continue to press Israel to accept "the proper representation by Palestinians, probably to include the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) when their question (is being) dealt with."

Lord Plumb, who left Jordan early Friday morning, noted that choosing the Palestinian representatives is the responsibility of the PLO, "but on our part, we will not wait for the technical points to be cleared out, rather we will encourage starting negotiations as soon as possible."

He said that he stressed in his speech to the Israeli Knesset that the prevailing situation in the region could only escalate violence in the occupied territories and that Israel must be part of the negotiations.

"My main thrust here, as it was in Israel, is to pursue a peace plan. Time is not necessarily on our side," (PLO Chairman Yasser) Arafat took a stand and said he was willing to come to the negotiating table... Europe can and will make considerable contribution to this peace effort. We will follow all developments over the next few months," he said.

However, Lord Plumb does not envision European pressure on Israel to force it to join the peace process.

"It's too early to tell (if the European countries will apply pressure on Israel), but I leave with more hope than when I came about moves towards the negotiating table."

He sees a possibility of real peace in the region in light of three factors: "His Majesty King Hussein's continued efforts towards solving the conflict, in particular Jordan's severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank; the resolutions adopted at the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers in November of last year accepting Resolutions 242 and 338 as a basis for convening an international conference; and the U.S.-PLO dialogue."

"I do not regard the convening of an international conference as a remote idea as it is accepted and being discussed by the Soviet

Union, the U.S. and others," he said. "There is pressure worldwide to bring (the conference) about."

Lord Plumb refuted Israeli claims on the issue. "I do not accept that Israel has made its position towards the Middle East clear."

He said that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir "made it clear that he won't sit with Arafat, but he will sit with Palestinians on two conditions."

Shamir, who met Lord Plumb during his two-day visit to Israel, prior to arriving in Jordan, said that Shamir insists that the Palestinians must be local residents of the occupied territories and be democratically elected by Palestinian people there.

Nor will Shamir accept Arafat choosing Palestinians from the occupied territories and the PNC, "other than democratically elected Palestinians from the occupied territories, Shamir might not accept Palestinians selected in any other way," said Lord Plumb.

Personally, Lord Plumb believes that a combination of locally elected representatives and PLO representatives, "might be acceptable to Israel, but maybe not to Shamir."

The Israeli position on Palestinian representation "is not clear," he said, adding that Shamir has been "letting loose a number of balloons to know the positions of the concerned parties."

"Shamir has clearly said to me that there is no peace plan on the table," Lord Plumb said.

Asked whether his speech to the Israeli Knesset in which he advocated Palestinian self-determination and Israel's right to exist meant the acceptance of an independent Palestinian state, Lord Plumb said, "yes, it means

recognition of an independent (Palestinian) state, likewise an Israeli independent state."

However, when pushed further on the Palestinian state issue, he said, "the European countries are reluctant to recognise a Palestinian state because there is no territory. Also we won't exclude the idea of a confederation as an option for the Palestinians."

Similarly the European countries will not recognise a provisional Palestinian government-in-exile. "We can only recognise a government if there is territory and this applies to all European countries."

In the same vein, Lord Plumb does not see the upgrading of relations between the PLO and the European countries in the near future. "We cannot take that position now."

He said that it is highly unlikely for Arafat to address the European Parliament. "Frankly! I do not see it as necessary to invite him... only heads of state are invited to talk."

However, Lord Plumb maintains "our role (in the region) is moral and political to reach a solution to the problem. We will not let go of that responsibility," he said, adding that not only the European Parliament, but the council of ministers, Council of Europe and the European Council "all remain firmly committed (to this responsibility)."

Also on Thursday Lord Plumb and the accompanying delegation visited the Baqa'a refugee camp. Lord Plumb and the delegation were briefed on the services the Jordanian government and UNRWA offer to the camp residents.

The delegation toured the camp and visited a girls school and the medical institutions wherein they inspected the services offered to the inhabitants of the camp.



Lord Plumb and the accompanying delegation touring the Baqa'a refugee camp Thursday (Petra photo)

Jordan reports to ILO on Israeli repressive policies in the occupied Arab territories

AMMAN (Petra) — The Labour Ministry has submitted a detailed report on Israel's repressive measures against workers in the occupied Arab territories to the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) fact finding mission.

The mission left Amman for Damascus Wednesday as part of its tour of the region includes Tunisia and Egypt.

The report includes Israeli racist policies, detentions, arrests, violent practices, and measures undertaken against workers and trade-unionists. The report details Israeli arbitrary measures against work institutions, its oppressive taxing policies, in addition to its violation of personal freedom such as imposing travel restrictions, placing people under house-arrest, closing educational institutes, demolishing houses, confiscating lands, and erecting Jewish settlements on Arab land.

Referring to the most outstanding characteristics of the Zionist

occupation of the Arab territories, the report noted that Israel confiscated 2,771,507 dunums from the lands of the West Bank since 1967 and that this comprises about 30 per cent of the whole area of the West Bank.

Some 153,475 dunums of Gaza Strip have also been confiscated since 1967, the report added. This amounts to 42 per cent of the whole area of the strip. The report added that 243 Jewish settlements have so far been erected in the occupied territories out of which 209 settlements are in the West Bank and 34 others in the Gaza Strip. The report also listed the names of all Arab citizens who were subjected to suppressive measures, the names of 398 people whose houses were demolished, and 466 martyrs who were killed since the outbreak of the intifada in December 1987.

The report also includes a list of all the Jewish settlements

erected in the occupied territories, date of each establishment, size, and the area of lands confiscated for the establishment of each.

PSD apprehends embezzlers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has announced the capture of a group of people who pose as non-Jordanian Arab personalities and commit embezzlements and frauds in the Kingdom.

A report in Al Rai Arabic daily said that the members of the group were found to have carried out their actions at hotels, goldsmiths, shops and car rental agencies in Amman.

Members of the group used forged identity cards of people they personified in the course of their embezzlement actions, the report said. It noted that the police will publish full details about the group once the whole investigations have been completed.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An exhibition of works by Contemporary Arab Artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- * The Iraqi Cultural Week which includes an exhibition by the Iraqi artist Salam Al Madanghah and an exhibition of children's paintings and children's literary and cultural books, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * An exhibition entitled "New Museum Buildings in the Federal Republic of Germany" at the Yarmouk University — 11:00 a.m.
- * A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Kamal, Samar Al Sabe' and Nibal Saleh at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- * An exhibition of photos and videos on "La Defense", a new district in Paris which became a symbol of architectural creativity, at the French Cultural Centre.
- * Yugoslav graphic art exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

BAZAAR

- * A charity bazaar that includes wooden handicrafts, embroideries, artificial flowers, children's toys and cultural books at Ala'a Centre, Hittin Refugee Camp.

LECTURE

- * Lecture by Ammar Khammash on the joint German-Jordanian renovation project at Umm Qeis at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1973

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Fresh hope for Lebanon

AFTER more than a decade and half of trials and errors to find the right anecdote to Lebanon's multi-dimensional malaise, the Arab foreign ministers meeting in a special session in Tunis Thursday, finally found what looks to be the correct approach to the multi-faceted Lebanese tribulations. The Arab foreign ministers' decision to form an Arab committee composed of Arab foreign ministers to establish contacts with the various adversaries in Lebanon with a view to tread a new and fresh road in the search for a permanent solution to the Lebanese crisis has the markings of a sound and promising formula that has yet to be tried.

So far the Arab World and the international community have tried every conceivable way to put an end to the slaughter in Lebanon and all were in vain. Now the Arab foreign ministers have introduced this "new panacea" to the endemic Lebanese conflict on which humanity is planning much hope. What remains to be seen is whether such a high level Arab mission would have the clout with all the factions that are party to the Lebanese ordeal. That is why the Arab foreign ministerial committee must pursue its noble mission with perseverance and tenacity even if it encounters hurdles along its path. When and if, for example, there appears to be a certain political or religious faction in Lebanon that is continuing to wage war on the new peace effort, the Arab foreign ministers committee would be well advised to isolate such a negative or hostile group and persevere its efforts with the rest of the forces in Lebanon in a bid to bring the influence of the cooperating elements to bear on the remaining forces acting against the emerging consensus. The positive elements are called upon to act in concert against the rebellious factions with arms if necessary. As it is virtually impossible to bring all the Lebanese factions together in one sweeping effort, no matter how correctly guided and motivated, it is. No one group or splinter group must be allowed to throw a wrench in the new Arab machinery. The aim and objective of the newly established Arab peace committee should be to strive for an overwhelming consensus that could snowball into a locomotive strong enough to sweep away all unbending elements.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily Friday commented on recent Israeli statements that Tel Aviv does not intend to offer the United Nations any meaningful role in the Middle East peace process despite Shamir's acceptance that future peace talks will be under U.N. umbrella. The paper said that it seems that Israel which adheres to its stubbornness will be facing further problems as Lord Plumb had said in his meetings with the Israeli government leaders. The Israeli statements cannot prevent Europe and the world community at large to create their own opinion of Israel and cannot stand in the way of any initiatives for the establishment of peace, said the paper. The Israeli hostile attitudes towards peace and the peace process, which is in the making, show clearly that Tel Aviv has utterly failed to convince anybody of its own ideas and to abort the march towards convening an international Middle East peace conference, the paper added. It said that statements by European leaders, which indicate a favourable attitude, will eventually help promote the march towards peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily believes that Israel is now completely surrounded and coming under mounting pressure from the world community to change its stance with regard to the Palestine problem. Israeli government leaders, who continue to adhere to their policies and pursue their aggressive attitude, have exposed their ugly faces to the whole world and proved that they are outlaws, completely outcast from the community of nations, the writer, Mahmoud Al Rimawi, notes. Rimawi says that Israel's past offers to have partial peace and unilateral peace treaties with the Arabs and its plans to impose autonomy rule on the Palestinians have all ended in thin air and could not convince any one of their viability. When everything else failed, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir tried to enlist Egypt's help to lure the Arab states to accept Tel Aviv's conditions and terms, and when this ploy failed too the Israeli premier has now come out with a statement accepting the United Nations to attend the negotiations with the Arabs but without having any role to play in the peace process, the writer continues. He says that all that Shamir wants is to exclude the superpowers and the PLO from any talks towards a settlement in implementation of U.N. resolutions.

Al Dustour daily discussed the Tunis meeting of Arab foreign ministers on the situation in Lebanon. The paper said that the ministers' meeting reflected the Arab countries' concern over the future of the embattled nation and the deteriorating conditions of the civilian population. But it said what is important to remember is that the situation in Lebanon came as a result of internal differences worsened by foreign intervention in that country's internal affairs. The paper believed that the Arab League and the foreign ministers would not be able to help Lebanon get out of the present dilemma unless the leaders of the warring parties in that country and the Lebanese people themselves are well prepared for reconciliation and peace.

Sawt Al Shaab daily reflects on the unanimous agreement among the Arab foreign ministers in Tunis on a unified Arab stand and solidarity with Libya in the face of foreign aggression. The paper said that only through solidarity can the Arabs stand strong in the face of external threats which are directed against the whole nation's interests. The all out condemnation by the Arab ministers of threats posed to Libya, the paper noted, reflects the unwavering support of Arab governments to their sister state and a determination to safeguard Arab dignity.

By Eleanor Shapiro

"WHEN I heard about Geneva (PLO chief Yasser Arafat's speech to the special U.N. session and subsequent news conference), I thought Israelis would dance in the street," says Samiha Khalil, head of the largest women's association in the West Bank. Arafat's speech, she says, "was a move more for the Israelis than for us."

Khalil, 65, is a founder and president of In'ash al-Ura (Society for Rehabilitation of the Family) in El Bireh, near Ramallah. Known as Umm Khalil, she has been recognised for years by both Palestinians and Israelis as a popular leader in her community.

The conservatively dressed, heavy-set grandmother wears her hair combed back in a tight bun. Students have her long, gold necklace she wears that bears an engraved olive tree, symbol of Palestine.

Given her background as a lifelong Palestinian activist, her attitudes are significant in light of the recent political developments in Algeria, Geneva and Washington.

For the first time in five years, Umm Khalil was interested in granting an interview to the Israeli press. "Every few years I make an experiment," she says.

Like many Palestinians in the occupied territories, Khalil has a personal stake in the resolution of the conflict. She is out of her five children and grandchildren, who live abroad. The military government denies her permission to travel and bars them from visiting.

Most of the activities of the society, which Khalil helped found in 1965 to foster literacy and vocational training for women, were closed by military order last June, six months into the intifada.

Only the kindergarten, which opened in 1967 to aid war refugees, along with a day-care centre and an orphanage, were permitted to remain open.

Meanwhile, the society's main building, which housed five vocational classes for 350 girls, a Palestinian folklore and research centre, a library and a bakery, sits locked and empty.

Before the intifada began, the bakery, together with an embroidery project involving over 2,000 women in 27 villages, funded most of the society's charitable activities. Financial resources had grown from \$500 in 1965 to \$420,000 in 1986, mostly due to Khalil's initiative.

The Israeli authorities, says Dr. Meron Benvenisti, head of the West Bank Data Base Pro-

ject, "want to hinder the development of voluntary organisations that can grow into an alternative social infrastructure. They can slow it down, but eventually they will fail. These are social dynamics that can't be destroyed."

According to Menahem Mazor, the senior deputy state attorney responsible for defending the military closure order against a high court appeal, "it is correct that there is a tendency to stop the infrastructure. But this is not done as long as the activities are legitimate. The society was not just a charitable organisation."

A significant part of the society's courses was indoctrination, Mazor asserts. "Through literature, film, lectures and demonstrations, the society served the uprising and helped to further the 'hostile purposes' of Palestinian organisations. Activities aiding the popular committees were conducted on the premises."

The Israeli high court of justice on November 21 turned down the society's appeal against the military closure order.

Meanwhile, Khalil is free on bail awaiting trial in the Ramallah military court on separate charges of incitement and possession and distribution of hostile material.

According to the charge sheet, she is a senior leader of protests

and disturbances in the area. Among the evidence is her assertion "of the importance of the society's activities in supporting the families of prisoners and of those killed in a security context."

Khalil's work has made her a natural target of the military authorities. Long before the current uprising made Palestinian self-sufficiency a goal, In'ash al-Ura inculcated the heady message of self-reliance mixed with national pride in its students. Although never convicted or formally charged until the present case, she was imprisoned several times. From 1980 to 1983 the military repeatedly put her under town arrest.

"I think the military is trying to make the people feel hopeless," Khalil says. But the Palestine National Council gives her hope that at some point she will have a Palestinian flag, move with a Palestinian identity card and "be free in what we want to say, write and where we go."

Khalil doesn't put much stock in the Israeli potential for change. Adding up the number of Knesset seats won by Labour, Likud and the religious parties in the recent election, she concludes that 97 of the 120 Knesset members are against accepting the PLO's peace proposals. She is surprised

to hear that the Labour Party has members who don't agree with party policy.

Khalil is clearly not a political theorist, and the contradictory impulses expressed in her occasional writing and poetry fuel the Israeli case against her. In the first month of the intifada, she wrote an impassioned open letter to Israeli mothers spelling out her views. It was published in *Davar*, *Al Hamishmar* and *Gesher*.

"You have a government," she wrote. "Why should I not also have a government? If you really oppose expansionism at our expense, then why does your government build settlements on our lands outside the 1948 borders? Is there not enough space within the 1948 borders, such as the Negev, on which your government can build settlements?... Have you asked questions about the ownership of the lands on which you built your settlements?"

She rejected several requests to continue the exchange in person after preliminary telephone contact convinced her that the Israeli women "wanted peace without paying the price."

She says: "I want them to feel for others what they feel for themselves. Most Israelis look at us as if we are not on the same level."

There was a time when it was different, says Khalil. She recalls that after 1967, military administrators used to come to her office. "They used to talk to the people as they are. But each year has got worse than the year before. Now, they look down on us."

Khalil's reputation among Palestinians is built on her open opposition to Israeli occupation as much as on her dedication to community work. She is very proud of the 85-90 per cent placement rate for about 2,700 girls who have graduated from the society's vocational courses.

Within a month or so, the high court is to decide just how long In'ash al-Ura should remain closed. The military court case against Khalil will also be heard about then. Defence counsel Avigdor Feldman acknowledges that the success rate in military courts is very poor.

How significant a leader is Samiha Khalil?

"She definitely represents Palestinian women who are socially mobilised and ready to work for their own community," says Benvenisti. "But Israelis crown the leaders of the Palestinians. Harass a person repeatedly, and because of his suffering he becomes a symbol!" — The Jerusalem Post.

Conflicting trends in Iranian politics

By Scheherazade Daneshkhah

IN RECENT months, movement on the Iranian political scene has been as pronounced as speeded-up film of clouds swirling across the earth's surface. In the foreign policy arena, the country's effective political leader, Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, has not tired of his criticism of the policies of the government of Prime Minister Mir Hossein Musavi.

In a reversal of standard policy, Rafsanjani has said that it was Iran which antagonised Kuwait and France over the past few years, rather than the other way round. Iran's "crude diplomacy" had led to its isolation, said Rafsanjani to students in the war-torn city of Ahwaz in mid-November.

While a clear direction of policy has been given on the external front towards a more diplomatic Iran conscious of the value of good public relations, recent manoeuvres inside the country have been more complicated. The past couple of months have seen yet another furious and forthright letter by Mehdi Bazargan, former prime minister and head of the opposition Freedom Movement, to the country's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini. Bazargan has demanded the release of his associates who were arrested in June for criticising the government's prosecution of the war with Iraq, as well as far greater freedom of expression for the party. In the letter, Bazargan warns that unless these rights are upheld, he will disband the Freedom Movement and thereby deprive Iran's leadership of its token democracy.

The response from the leadership has been accommodating. Two weeks after the publication of the letter, the minister of information, Hojatoleslam Mohammad-Reyshahi, said that political parties can operate with in the country and contest elections on condition that "they do not hatch plots against it or create obstacle in its way." A number of Bazargan's colleagues were also released.

Rafsanjani's policy

It would be a mistake however, to assume that the Islamic leadership is acting solely under pressure in its response to such challenges. The signs are that these moves coincide with Rafsanjani's new policy which hinges on the need to centralise Iran's centres of decision-making, uphold the rule of law and allow greater freedom of expression within the framework of the Islamic Republic.

Rafsanjani himself explained the rationale for such a policy in a keynote Friday prayers speech delivered in mid-October.

"During these ten years we have prepared the infrastructure of a society which is in line with our aspirations. From the political point of view, obstacles have almost been removed... Many people outside the country are waiting to see whether we manage to create an acceptable kind of society and a suitable model of development, progress, evolution because if we do we will have achieved what the world feared — export of the revolution. Slogans do not induce faith in people — we must present them with a scientific model of the Islamic Republic."

Rafsanjani also spoke of the need to attract back to the country the hundreds of thousands of educated Iranians abroad to help in the country's reconstruction

programmes. "If we give up some of the short-sightedness, some of our successes and some of the crude aspects which were the requirements of the early stages of the revolution and that we do not need today, we will attract them back."

The government has identified some of the fears of the emigre community, such as lawlessness, and is attempting to reassure it that, in this respect at least, the Iranian house is being put in order. Chief Justice Ayatollah Mousavi-Ardebili has on at least two occasions spoken of the need to abide by the law in the context of emigre anxieties.

In a recent letter to the Farsi-language *Kayhan* (airmail edition), one Iranian living abroad complained that until the rule of law was established in Iran, he would be staying away. In an extraordinary editorial response the paper replied that unless those who believe in the rule of law returned, who did they think would establish it?

Montazeri's criticisms

Another strategy employed by the government to attract the emigres back has been the encouragement which has led to an increase in exchanges such as the above. The main champion of a more liberal Islamic Republic has always been the heir-designate, Ayatollah Montazeri.

In a somewhat pained reminder of his political impotence, Montazeri spoke of the country's problems to a group of Islamic students in Mashhad, adding "I too feel the same way as you. I have no involvement in the policies, decisions and executive affairs of the country and I am aloof [from them]." However, Montazeri went on to deliver a stunning indictment of government policy:

"Today we are in need of the enhancement and growth of Islamic and revolutionary culture. The process will not be achieved without the certainty of freedom of expression. The esteemed officials of the country and the revolution, who have themselves tasted the bitter taste of suppression during the regime of monarchical tyranny should be mindful of this fact... The time has passed when we can declare people 'infidel', when we can excommunicate them or when we can level various accusations at them because they declare some truths."

Montazeri's repeated outspokenness in the past month appears to have been prompted by the recent spate of executions within Iran. According to the opposition Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, whose members fought alongside Iraq in the Gulf war, 5,000 of their number have been executed since the Gulf ceasefire. More recently the Tudeh (Communist) party of Iran claims that the

majority of its imprisoned leadership have also been executed. The executions, which are denied by the authorities, appear to form part of the campaign aimed at removing potential opposition forces.

The government has, however, admitted executing six members of the clergy, including two former MPs, on charges of corruption. One of these, Sathollah Omid-Najafabadi, was closely associated with Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi, the brother of Montazeri's son-in-law, who was himself executed a year ago. Mehdi Hashemi had a network of groupings and contacts at his disposal and his independent organisation had become a threat to the government, particularly once he had decided to spill the beans over the Iran-U.S. arms-for-hostages barter in 1986.

Despite such activities there has nevertheless been an official attempt to open up debate on issues sanctioned by Ayatollah Khomeini. An exhaustive list of these topics ranges from fundamental issues, for example the limitations on private and public ownership to the bizarre, such as the ethics of limb transplants. Rafsanjani had the foresight to point out that criticism does not have to be correct to be valuable: "Criticism means that there are persons who identify what is for the good of society — and they might even make mistakes. It is

not necessary for a criticism to be correct; it may even amount to an unjust word."

Once again, the calls for criticism, while serving to attract emigres, also serve a more concrete purpose. Unless criticism can be shown to be a worthy business, Rafsanjani would have very little justification for admonishing the government on its previous policies. In addition, freedom to criticise in Iran today means freedom to disagree with an economic policy that has been heavily geared towards state control. Rafsanjani's policy has now been endorsed by Khomeini, in a much publicised speech known as the Charter of Brotherhood, endorsed "scholarly debates between the *ulema* and laymen on controversial topics, as long as they do not prejudice the foundation of Islamic statehood."

Mussavi's weak position

A spate of criticism against the beleaguered prime minister has now been released. The statist Mussavi has been in a weak position ever since Rafsanjani came out with his new policies. Most recently, the conservative (i.e. pro-free trade) daily *Resalat* took Mussavi to task over his statement that "so far, the lack of the necessary authority has been the main obstacle facing the government, and we have not had strong laws to deal with corruption, bribery and other issues that will

be studied in time." The paper asks why not?

"Why would people curb their liberties and undertake heavy expenditures for governments whose paid officials do nothing for the people instead of serving the people? The absence of control during the time of war, the fact that the government machinery is contaminated with corruption because of the lack of inspection, and the fact that some employers plunder the people's and the state's wealth, are all violations of the nation's goals and Islamic values."

Establishing the rule of law, which means curbing the power of the local committees and the Revolutionary Guards, allowing greater freedom of expression and move towards free trade, are all measures which have the effect of taking power away from the radical factions and signal a realignment in domestic politics. This realignment, backed by renewed emphasis on building Iran into a model Islamic country, has been necessary for leaders such as Rafsanjani ever since the leadership accepted a ceasefire in the Gulf war. That move, along with Khomeini's acceptance speech, signalled the demise of what could loosely be termed "Khomeinism", with its total emphasis on confronting and triumphing over Islam's enemies abroad — Middle East International, London.

A tale of two chancellors

The author, Christian Hacke, is professor of political science at the Bundeswehr University in Hamburg. His latest book, just published, is entitled *Weltmacht wider Willen, die Aussenpolitik der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (World Power Against Its Will: The Foreign Policy of the Federal Republic of Germany)*. Just before Christmas, former Social Democrat Chancellors Willy Brandt and Helmut Schmidt turned respectively 75 and 70. Both made a lasting mark on German foreign policy while they were in office. Under the one, the Federal Republic was transformed from a participant to a pacemaker in détente. Under the other, *Westpolitik* and *Ostpolitik* were merged to form a new entity. In this article for *Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt*, Hacke looks at the two men and their foreign policies.

By Christian Hacke

BOTH men made an indelible mark on Social Democratic policy, the country's political culture and the policies of the federal government for many years.

As former federal chancellors they made a particularly significant contribution toward foreign policy.

Willy Brandt personified a vision of understanding, cooperation and reconciliation with the states of Central and Eastern Europe.

Who will not remember him standing at the window of a hotel in Erfurt, GDR, in 1970 as the crowd broke through the barriers to cheer the chancellor?

Seldom has a desire for democratic leadership been as patently evident as on this occasion. Herr Brandt had to control his emotions and remind the crowd to exercise restraint.

In addition to his *Deutschlandpolitik*, which culminated in the 1972 Basic Treaty between the two German states, the development of positive relations with the Soviet Union was of overriding importance.

He had realised that the overall structure of *Ostpolitik* and *Deutschlandpolitik* could only succeed if it paid special heed to Soviet interests.

Historically, by signing the Moscow Treaty in 1970 Willy Brandt followed in the footsteps of Walter Rathenau, who as Foreign Minister in 1922 signed the Treaty of Rapallo in a bid to

strike an East-West balance for the Weimar Republic.

Brandt may have been reminded of Rathenau in connection with domestic criticism of the Moscow Treaty.

Like Rathenau, Brandt was berated as being a lackey of the great powers. Like Rathenau, Brandt sought to arrive at realistic conclusions from the lost war.

Rathenau was assassinated. Willy Brandt soon rode on a wave of domestic approval. The Moscow Treaty was thus an impressive start to further ties with Central and Eastern Europe.

In Moscow Brandt acknowledged the Soviet Union's leadership. In Warsaw, on signing the December 1970 treaty with Poland, he specially emphasised the moral aspect of relations.

Poland had suffered dreadfully from Hitler's policies. The emotional and historic burden was evident when Herr Brandt was welcomed to Warsaw on 6 December 1970 with military honours to the sound of the German national anthem.

In his memoirs he recalls that the faces of the Poles, many of whom had spent long years in Nazi concentration camps, showed clear signs of violent emotion while the German national anthem was being played.

But he showed Poland an overabundance of readiness for political détente and economic generosity. The treaty was thus not balanced.

The settlement with Poland,

seen by all political parties in the Federal Republic as the centrepiece of a careful policy toward Central and Eastern Europe, continued to be difficult.

Both the shadow of the past and the ideological blinkers of the present still impede the Polish government's progress toward better relations with Bonn.

A crucial factor nonetheless was that Willy Brandt's *Ostpolitik* was less in response to the policy pursued by the superpowers than the expression of a new self-confidence on the Federal Republic's part.

From then on, Bonn was a model of propriety in establishing normal relations with the East. The Federal Republic's transformation from a participant to a pacemaker in détente in Europe is Willy Brandt's outstanding achievement.

Yet this policy marked time from the end of 1973, and Herr Brandt resigned his foreign policy emphasis.

From 1973 to this day he has appealed for more compassion, drawing attention to pressing global problems such as food supplies, population growth, environment and commodity problems and, last not least, the problems of armament and disarmament.

While Willy Brandt's foreign policy legacy can be pigeonholed in terms of treaties, Helmut Schmidt's foreign policy balance-sheet is more difficult to draw up, being widely spread in world affairs.

He sought to keep the economic risks at bay that faced the Federal Republic as a result of both international economic crises and moves of the political pendulum in the United States and the rapid military build-up by the Soviet Union.

Herr Schmidt also aimed to protect the Federal Republic's *Ostpolitik* flank from superpower confrontations or from power accrued by the Soviet Union.

Helmut Schmidt's view, look-



Helmut Schmidt



Willy Brandt

ing further afield than Europe, was economically oriented in his country's interest. He regarded with scepticism the American claim that détente was internationally indivisible, fearing that any turbulence in relations between America and the Soviet Union might plunge Western Europe in general and West Germany in particular into global tension. His personality, his knowledge of international affairs, his diplomacy of balance and his predictability were instrumental in transforming the Federal Republic into a second-rank world power.

The erstwhile discrepancy between the economic giant and the political dwarf, a post-war German homecoming, had disappeared. By virtue of Willy Brandt's *Ostpolitik* and his own showing in the various international and energy crises of the 1970s and early 1980s Helmut Schmidt elevated the Federal Republic, an economic great power, to global political status.

This process was facilitated by Bonn's Western partners having to forfeit power in one way or another, whereas the Federal Republic under his leadership fared better with many crises.

Under Chancellor Schmidt German foreign policy was inter-

nationally exceptional due to détente with the East by strict compliance with alliance commitments to the West.

During his chancellorship *Westpolitik* and *Ostpolitik*, previously considered irreconcilable, were merged to form a new entity. Schmidt self-assuredly pursued his foreign policy within the framework available, making shrewd use of the shift of power from the United States toward the capitals of Western Europe.

He personified German and, in his own way, Prussian policy in a Western European guise.

He sought to mediate between East and West at times of most serious crisis without calling the Federal Republic's ties with the West into question.

For almost a decade he symbolised foreign policy stability and reliability at a time of turbulent worldwide developments.

For a number of years he succeeded in enormously extending the Federal Republic's foreign policy radius, arguably in overextending it.

Under Helmut Schmidt the Federal Republic lived above its circumstances, in international esteem. Reality has now brought it back down to earth — *Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt*, Hamburg.

Environmental party taking root in Egypt

By Munir Bowett
Reuter

CAIRO — An environmentalist party is emerging in dusty, sandy Egypt, aiming to focus attention on the ecological angle in public issues rather than to win power.

A parliamentary committee is due to decide this month whether the Greens should be recognised as a political party.

They claim to have thousands of supporters but have attracted little interest in Cairo newspapers.

Party officials aren't worried. They do not plan to contest elections for at least 10 years, prefer-

ring to focus attention on Egypt's long-term environmental health.

"There is a silent majority who do not vote in elections or take part in political life. Our party aims to attract these people so that they will have a say in making political decisions," Greens spokesman Baha Bakri told Reuters in an interview.

"We want people to think green. We want to make them realise that it's better to plant a tree than destroy one," he said.

The Egyptian Greens are moderate and centrist on most public issues.

They support government foreign policy and do not share the objections of Egypt's leftist

opposition parties to Egypt's relations with Israel.

But they believe lack of water will eventually force Israel to negotiate a solution to its 40-year-old conflict with Arab states.

"Israeli leaders must understand that under pressure from nature they will have to come to terms with their neighbours," Bakri said.

The Greens decided to form a party because about 40 environmentalist pressure groups, some formed early this century, had not made their presence felt, said Abdel Salam Daoud, a newspaper columnist and one of the founders.

He told Reuters that the Egyptian Greens had broader priorities than West European environmentalist parties which were mainly concerned about the arms race and pollution.

Egypt's Greens plan to develop long-term policies to combat problems such as over-population, food shortages, illiteracy and unemployment.

Bakri, an engineering professor, accused the five existing opposition parties, swamped by President Hosni Mubarak's National Democracy Party (NDP) in parliament, of being too passive.

"They do not hold the initiative. They merely react to whatever the government does. The whole process is a tennis game," he said.

Governments, he said, merely dealt with problems as they arose rather than planning ahead. But the Greens proposed to work out a "national strategic scheme" defining how Egypt should look in 50 years.

"The future is born today and planning the future is not something luxurious," Bakri said.



Baba Qawush: "I find great solace in my life as a dervish."

Barefoot in the Yezidi tradition

The Yezidi's singular tradition has survived through modern times in Iraq as a visit to the Yezidis' holiest shrine near Nineveh, northern Iraq, amply shows.

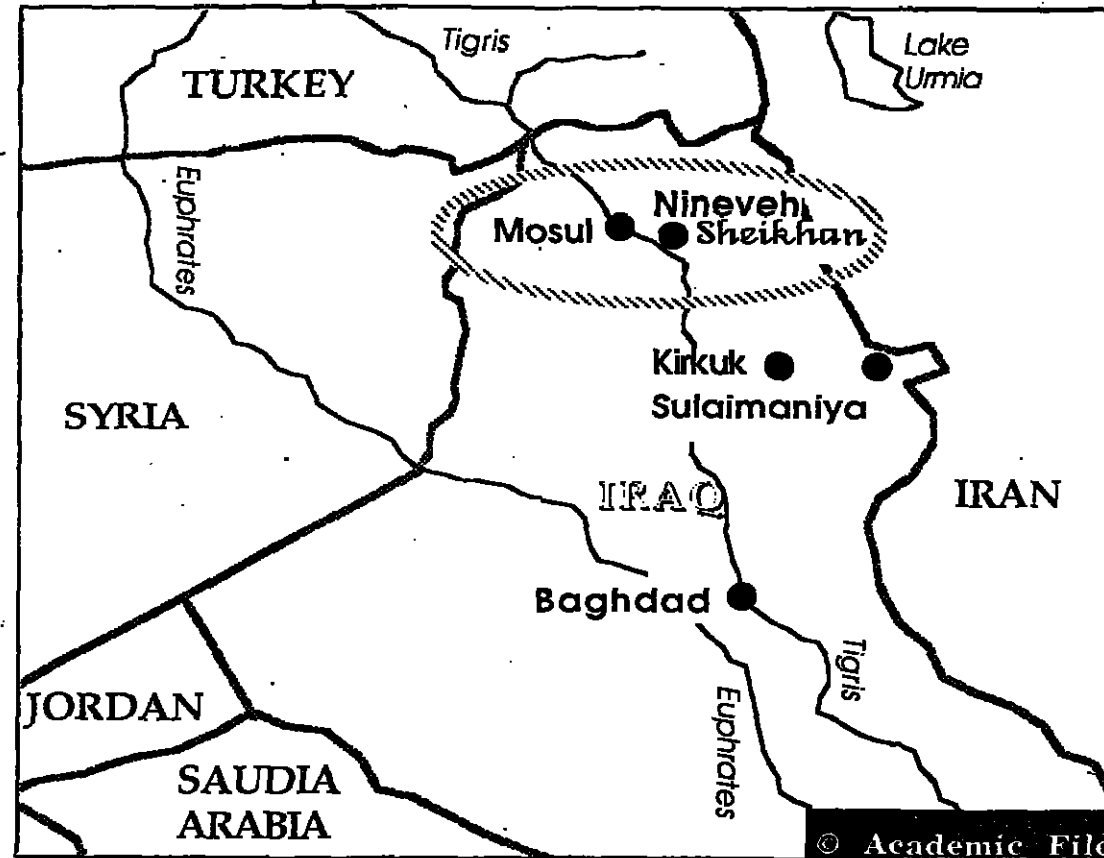
By Léon Y. Barkho

SHEIKHAN — He was 18 years old when Baba Qawush decided to dedicate his life to the service of Sheikh Adi's shrine. Since then, he has been barefoot, without shoes, socks or stockings.

"I have been walking barefoot for 37 years. My companions

have been the flowing brooks, the mulberry and fig trees and the chirps of sparrows," said the 55-year-old hermit in an interview.

Baba Qawush is the resident caretaker of Sheikh Adi's sanctuary, the holiest shrine of Iraq's Yezidi community, located in the picturesque Lalish Valley, a 10-minute drive from the town cen-



© Academic File

tre of Sheikhhan, 60 kilometres north of the city of Nineveh.

A paved road leads to the shrine which rises out of a mass of dark green foliage that extends for more than a mile (3 kilometres). Willows and shrubs have thrived alongside the tributary brooks that flow into the valley from the east and the west.

There are about 90,000 Yezidis in a population of about 17 million in Iraq. The Yezidis have maintained their singular identity through years of change around them, following the rites of a faith

which is a mixture of the teachings of the Magi, Islam and Christianity. Their practices evoke a sense of the traditions which flourished for many centuries in Mesopotamia, ancient Iraq.

Their celibacy and poverty, in particular, seem to have been influenced by Christian monks who sought refuge in the area. Two of the oldest Christian monasteries in Iraq, Mar Mati and Rabban Hormuzd, are not very far from Sheikh Adi's shrine.

Like all his predecessors in the important sacerdotal rank, Baba Qawush is a celibate and devoted to simple living. He considers himself a *Sufi* — closer to the Muslim mystic order than to the monastic Christian ways.

His is a busy schedule. Yezidis come to the shrine and call on Baba Qawush to seek guidance on aspects of the faith. This he delivers when he holds court in front of his main residence, a domed cell on the right side of the shrine.

Baba Qawush sits on the ground with his back to the wall, his Yezidi followers kiss his hand and, before they withdraw at the end of an audience, they drop money in a coin box placed in front of him.

"I pay nothing for food and clothing," Baba Qawush said. "The Yezidis are very generous to their Sheikh. There is always someone bringing a pot of rice and stewed meat."

Baba Qawush's duties include showing the visitors around and providing food and lodging for non-Yezidis calling on the shrine. "I have renounced the world," he said. "I have left behind the

worldly pleasures. All I have is the bed on which I sleep and the clothes that I wear."

Poverty and chastity are the conditions which have to be strictly followed by people dedicating their lives to service at the shrine. So the donations from the faithful — about \$21,000 last year — are not claimed by Baba Qawush; they go towards maintenance, repair and renovation work at the shrine and other Yezidi monuments.

In the past, he said, scores of men and women used to forsake the world and seek peace in the shrine. "There were special headquarters for men and women," he said. Now he is the only hermit, two nuns residing in separate quarters his only companions. One of them, 58-year-old Dadeh (Mother) Mariam, came to the shrine when she was 15. Like Baba Qawush she has been barefoot since she began her life at the shrine.

The nuns and Baba Qawush are a familiar sight in the area as the night falls. Soon after dusk Baba Qawush, followed by the two nuns, roams the area tending lamps which must be lit every evening.

"We consider petrol and naphtha impure," said Baba Qawush "therefore we use the oil of sesame and other vegetable substances for lighting."

The choice of lighting fuel seems a minor detail in the overwhelming richness of tradition that this Yezidi point of pilgrimage, so close to the modern bustle of Nineveh and yet so sheltered from it, seems to represent. — Academic File



Faye Dunaway

Dunaway chips away at a grandiose persona

By Christopher Michaud

NEW YORK — She calls it "Dunaway Part II." Faye Dunaway is hoping her sensitive portrayal of a wife and mother in *Burning Secret* will chip away at the grandiose persona that has dogged her since flamboyant performances in *Mommie Dearest*, *Supergirl* and *The Wicked Lady*.

It was a phase in her career she'd prefer to forget. Before that — in Dunaway Part I — she won international acclaim for her Oscar-nominated performance in *Bonnie and Clyde* and *Chinatown* before winning the academy award as the neurotic programmer in the 1976 film *Network*.

Now in only her third film appearance since 1984, Dunaway plays a woman in 1919 Vienna who is seduced by a charming baron, Klaus Maria Brandauer, after he befriends her young son. "This role is not larger than life, and that's exactly what I'm seeking not to be. I would like to dispel that reputation," the 47-year-old actress said in an interview.

"It's a woman who adores her son and jeopardises a relationship and a marriage that are terribly important to her, and the reserves of adventure and danger and eroticism that are awakened by this baron," she said.

It was with the acclaimed movie *Barfly* in 1987 that Dunaway began her pursuit of quality roles in smaller films. Prior to that she had been living in London with her then husband, photographer Terry O'Neill and raising her son, Liam. But she wasn't making movies.

"It was the fallow period," Dunaway said, and it followed a string of films that in retrospect she regrets, such as *Mommie Dearest*, *Supergirl*, and *The Champ* and *The First Deadly Sin* with Frank Sinatra. In a review of *The Champ* one critic dubbed her "the queen of ties."

"That whole period I'm not pleased with. It was like I suddenly found myself in quicksand, and I said 'wait a minute, this has nothing to do with what I want to do with my work.'"

So it was off to London to regroup, and devote time to her family. "Wrong career choices were made," Dunaway said, "but I was making the right choices for myself."

While in Europe, Dunaway said she "learned a lot about courtesy." This she said she's now much easier to work with. "Dunaway called her turn as movie queen Joan Crawford in *Mommie Dearest* 'the one role I never should have done...'"

"It was just so extreme, and I just felt I had not retained control in that film," she said of the

hard-drinking, hysterical Crawford's physical abuse of her daughter Christina.

Ironically, playing Mickey Rourke's lover and fellow-drunk in *Barfly* helped Dunaway regain her orientation. "It was a gift from heaven, a chance to deglamourise and break down some of this larger than life image."

In *Burning Secret*, working with first-time director Andrew Birkin, Dunaway sought to cultivate a toned-down image.

But it wasn't easy. In the original script, Dunaway's character was "absolutely terrible. She had no maternal feeling whatsoever. And the baron was heartless and used the boy to get to the woman for an affair."

Birkin rewrote the characters to make them "much more oblique and textured," but Dunaway and Brandauer had differing views on who should pursue whom. "Klaus would rather that I had pursued him more, and I felt he should have been the pursuer."

Dunaway said she doesn't want to trade barbs in public with actors and directors she has battled on the set.

But Bette Davis went so far as to say publicly she would never work with Dunaway again. Shrugging it off, Dunaway said "it wasn't a bad working relationship at all. I think she was mad because I kept a lot of people waiting a couple of times."

Like Davis once did, Dunaway is now adopting a more aggressive posture in seeking out suitable roles. "A lot of women woke up and said 'I have to find my own because they're not going to give them to me,'" she said. After her next two films — a Lina Wertmüller drama about AIDS and *Wait Until Spring Bandini* with Joe Mantegna — she will produce and star in *Cold Sassy Tree*, a southern period piece about a young boy's coming of age. *Bandini* is a drama about a struggling immigrant family in Colorado in the 1920s.

She is also looking into a possible remake of the old Carol Lombard-John Barrymore screwball comedy, *Twentieth Century*.

While Dunaway said she never thought about being anything other than an actress, ("perhaps an architect manque" or a businesswoman manque"), the profession is not one she would encourage her son Liam to pursue.

"It's a very unnatural attention, to have that kind of focus. It goes with my territory but I try not to inflict it ever on him."

And if he wanted to inflict it on himself? "I had a great piece of advice from somebody: 'If anything can stop you, let it.'"

An amazing legacy of the Ottoman empire

By Hugh Pope

ISTANBUL (R) — In a historic quarter of Istanbul still known as the sublime porte, Turkish archivists are busy sorting out an amazing legacy of the Ottoman Empire.

Hundreds of documents, ledgers and edicts in fine Arabic script are classified each day in a big new building near the Topkapi Palace's sublime porte, whose name is synonymous with the Ottoman government.

"Each year we go several times faster than the year before," said Ismet Miroglu, head of the prime ministry Archives.

There's still a long way to go. So far only eight per cent of an estimated 100 million documents have been sorted in the archives, the largest Ottoman repository.

The documents record in meticulous detail the administration from the 15th to the 20th century of an empire that once stretched from the Arabian Sea to the gates of Vienna.

Under Miroglu's administration and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's new policy, scholars say large sections have been opened up already — within the existing rules that nothing after 1914 may be called up.

The last taboo

Pushing aside a last taboo, Turkey says it has set in motion the eventual release of all documents relating to the deportation of over a million Armenians from East Anatolia during the 1914-18 war.

It hopes access to the documents will settle a bitter controversy over Armenian claims that the Ottoman government ordered the genocide of their people.

The new Armenian section will be opened in April, coinciding with Armenians' commemoration of April 1915 when they say the killing of 1.5 million of their people started.

Turkish historians say about 300,000 Armenians, including irregular bands fighting alongside Turkey's Russian foes, died as well as millions of local people killed in the east.

Ozal says Republican Turkey, forged from the ruins of the Ottoman empire in 1923, has no responsibility for Ottoman war policy. But Armenian militants have killed over 40 Turkish diplo-

mats since the 1970s. Scholarly volumes argue persuasive cases for both sides.

Passionate accounts by European consuls of massacres in the east support the Armenian case. Turkey has published dozens of Ottoman documents showing that the cabinet sent orders for Armenians to be deported safely.

"The Russian documents in Moscow, Tiflis and Yerevan should also be opened and European and U.S. archives made full use of," said Turkish historian Enver Konukcu.

Miroglu said procedures which keep foreign scholars waiting up to nine months for permission to study would be eased. He said 70 foreign academics studied here in 1988, double the number five years ago.

The first set of Armenian-related documents to be made available in April will cover the years 1691 to 1895.

"They will come from all collections. Within three years we hope to sort out and make available everything on the Armenians up to the end of the Ottoman period," Miroglu said.

"We really don't know what we have in our depots. Documents are stacked in everything from back rooms in old schools to wooden chests."

Other archives in the Topkapi palace, the general staff and major mosques have documents linked to the Armenians. It is not clear when or if they will be released.

Miroglu denied charges that there had been any weeding-out of the documents, over half of which are meticulously-recorded financial transactions.

Even for Turks it takes years of study to acquire the skill to read any of these documents. Miroglu has set up new university departments to supply 30 archivists a

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Bahrain to boost borrowing

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain said Thursday it would increase domestic borrowing sharply in the calendar years 1989 and 1990 to compensate for lower oil prices and limited rises in oil production.

Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim Abdul Karim said relatively weak oil prices meant the budget deficit would rise by 66 per cent to 100 million dinars (\$265 million) in 1989 and remain at that level in 1990.

"The big fall in oil prices and the limited increase in our oil production has forced us to resort to domestic borrowing...the loans will help us to continue economic development," he said.

in a statement. Bahrain tripled its debt ceiling to 300 million dinars (\$795 million) in 1988 to allow the issue of more government treasury bills and bonds.

The 1988 budget deficit was forecast at 60 million dinars (\$160 million), but actual figures have not yet been announced.

Abdul Karim said government spending was set to rise to 530 million dinars (\$1.4 billion) in 1989 from the projected 490 million dinars (\$1.3 billion) in 1988.

and would reach 540 million dinars (\$1.43 billion) in 1990.

He said the projections, approved by the cabinet, were based on oil prices of between \$12 and \$15 per barrel.

Government revenue for 1989 was set at the previous year's level of 430 million dinars (\$1.14 billion) but would rise to 440 million (\$1.16 billion) in 1990.

Abdul Karim said oil income in 1989 and 1990 would fall to 46 per cent of Bahrain's revenues, showing that the island was limiting its dependence on oil.

Oil revenues were estimated at around 58 per cent of income in 1988.

He said the two-year budget would not introduce new tariffs which would affect living stan-



Ibrahim Abdul Karim

dards, such as customs duties on water and electricity taxes.

More would be spent on defence, education, health and housing but less would be spent on works, power and water.

Commercial banks demand incentives to keep lending to developing nations

WASHINGTON (R) — Banks are willing to make a new effort to help poor countries grow out of their debt problems, but only if international lending agencies do more and the debtors follow sound economic policies, a group of major commercial banks has said.

If this cooperative approach does not work the result could be upheaval in the Third World, the chairman of the bank group, First Chicago Corp Chairman Barry Sullivan, said.

"Banks will continue in the future to assist any country committed to opening and modernising its economy. But there must be solid actions taken to implement and maintain sound economic policies. Where this is not done, political and social turmoil may well be the result," he told reporters.

Sullivan was introducing a new report by the Institute of Interna-

tional Finance (IIF), an information exchange for about 160 international banks.

The report, entitled "The Way Forward for Middle-Income Countries," said banks would be prepared to consider loan pledges for more than a year at a time if the International Monetary Fund and World Bank did the same.

Debtors also had to introduce policies that emphasised the private sector and gave more confidence to investors.

"Confidence in the ability of governments to manage their domestic economies must be restored in these countries if middle class is to develop, if democracy is to succeed, and if social inequities are to be reduced," Sullivan added.

'Wealthy prefer keeping money abroad'

He said banks were aware that

living standards in highly indebted countries had fallen and that the gap between rich and poor was widening, but one reason was that the wealthy preferred to keep their money abroad.

"This demonstrated lack of confidence by the wealthy helps explain why banks insist that new lending can be justified only where performance is improved," Sullivan said.

Banks also needed incentives to agree voluntarily to reduce the mountain of Third World debt. Creditor governments or the World Bank could guarantee interest or principal, while tax rules and banking regulations could be adapted to encourage debt reduction, the report said.

"Banks need a new rationale to stay in the process," the report said.

The World Bank could also play a more active role by shedding its reluctance to do more

co-financing, whereby its loans are linked directly to commercial bank credits.

The World Bank's attitude was increasing bankers' doubts about the viability of the current debt strategy, the report said.

"Commercial lenders cannot be expected to have more faith in that strategy than the international organisations express by their restrictive co-financing policies," the IIF said.

Sullivan denied that help from governments or the World Bank would be a bailout of the banks.

"The debt problem has gone on too long for the governments of industrialised countries to view it as something that can be worked out just between the debtor countries and their banks," he said.

Horst Schulmann, managing director of the IIF, said help from governments would bail banks in to new lending, not bail them out.

Gulf Arabs start \$100m investment firm

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Businessmen from Gulf Arab countries have announced they had formed a joint company for industrial investments with an anticipated capital of \$100 million.

The group, led by Abdullah Al Moejel, secretary-general of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting (GOIC), announced the joint venture at the end of a two-day meeting in Bahrain.

GOIC is a governmental organisation instituted by the governments of the Gulf Arab states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Iraq. With the ex-

ception of Iraq, the other six are grouped in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

GCC states have urged the private sector to play more active role in the economic development as the price of oil — the mainstay of the economies — has been weak over the past six years.

The investment company, initially called the Gulf Industrial Investment Company (GIIC), will be set up within two months, according to Hamad Abdul, member of the Bahraini Chamber of Commerce and Industry and president-elect of the overseeing committee.

"The company is intended to

boost the participation of the private sector in economic development as well as product selection for better diversification of industrial development in the region," he said.

"It is in compliance with the policy of the GCC governments to involve the private sector in a more active role in the economic development so as to alleviate the burdens of the states," he added.

The committee has authorised GOIC to contact the six Gulf governments to ensure equal treatment for all investments coming from within the GCC states. Iraq, according to the officials, was not immediately in-

cluded in this bid because of its singular economic circumstances based on the battering its economy took in the eight-year war with Iraq.

In addition, GOIC, along with the Bahraini Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is to contact and register shareholders before the committee reconvenes on Feb. 22 to determine a date for the shareholders assembly.

Shareholding is set at a \$250,000 floor for firms, and \$25,000 for individuals.

The meeting began to hopes of starting the company with a capital of \$500 million, but the final decision was in favour of \$100 million.

Coca-Cola plans operations in Arab states

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Coca-Cola is about to be officially removed from the Arab League blacklist for dealing with Israel and plans to open bottling plants throughout the Gulf, a company official has said.

"We have plans to open bottling plants throughout the Gulf," said Peter Beaumont. He would not release details on the number

of plants involved or say when they will open.

In the Syrian capital of Damascus, where the official boycott committee was meeting, one participant acknowledged that the Coca-Cola issue was discussed but refused to confirm that the American conglomerate was off the blacklist.

The boycott office, based in Damascus and an arm of the 22-nation Arab League, put the soft drink maker on the list 21 years ago because it did business with Israel.

Coca-Cola bottling plants are already going up in Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

Coca-Cola is also on supermarket shelves in the Sultanate of Oman, Qatar, and Kuwait. In Saudi Arabia, the latest edition of the kingdom's official register proclaimed that the company and its product were no longer on the Arab boycott list.

The Coke for sale in Saudi Arabia came from neighbouring Oman and was priced at 23 riyals (\$6) for a case of 24.

The Olayan Co. of Saudi Ara-

bia received permission to distribute the soft drink in a market that is currently dominated by Pepsi. Coke's traditional rival.

Company executives in Riyadh also said that in about six months they will be bottling the secret recipe of the soft drink.

Top Citibank executive ends fruitful Jordan visit

AMMAN — Mr. Guenther Greiner, group executive for Europe/Middle East/Africa at Citicorp/Citibank New York, left Amman after a short visit during which he met with H.E. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Central Bank Governor Husain Kasim, and high ranking government officials, bankers, and businessmen.

This is Mr. Greiner's first visit to the country and it reflects the importance the bank attaches to its operations in Jordan.

It is worth mentioning here that Citibank is one of the largest financial institutions in the world and has a global network of around 3056 branches in 90 countries.

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Khamenei widens private sector role

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei has ordered the commerce ministry to reduce its control of foreign trade, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) has reported.

That appeared designed to bolster Iran's resurgent private sector as Tehran relaxes tight controls of the economy imposed during the eight-year-war with Iraq.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Khamenei as saying that the ministry should ease its grip on the economy and "hand over some responsibilities, such as trade, to the people."

The ministry controls more than 80 per cent of Iran's trade.

The agency quoted Khamenei as saying that under the exceptional conditions of war the government had unlimited authority over the country's affairs.

But, following the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war, "our brave, smart and mature people are not lacking anything and can do the job themselves," Khamenei said.

The government, despite strong opposition from radicals who want even tighter economic controls, moved to expand the private sector after the ceasefire.

The cash-strapped government has been trying to attract private funds to pay for imports to ease shortages.

Widespread corruption within the government's bloated bureaucracy was also believed to be a reason for easing official control of the economy.

Khamenei said the commerce ministry's ideal role would be as a supervisory body with legal powers to govern trade practices, IRNA said.

A heated debate over the economy has dragged on for years and polarised the leadership into pragmatists led by Khamenei and parliament speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and hardliners such as Prime Minister Hussein Musavi.

The massive task of post-war reconstruction has brought the differences into sharp focus. Moves by the pragmatists to relax political and social restrictions as well as economic restraints have intensified the wrangles in the hierarchy.

Khamenei is backed by the wealthy merchant class, known as bazaaris, who largely financed the 1979 revolution which brought the Islamic regime to power. They have pushed for a more laissez-faire economy.

Musavi, under fire for his economic policies during the war, seeks wider state control to "lessen the gap between rich and poor."

The debate was largely put on the back-burner due to the war. But Rafsanjani and others now argue that Iranians will no longer put up with economic hardships blamed on the war.

The government last month listed about 40 scarce items that could be privately imported for a trial period of two years. They ranged from medical equipment and agricultural products to pens and books.

Acting Commerce Minister

Abdolkarim Vahhaji said more items will be deregulated and stressed that "with the implementation of this plan, the prices of goods will come down and it

will create economic calm and stability."

The recent reforms indicate that Khamenei and Rafsanjani hold the upper hand.

Bush balks at intervention to curb leveraged buyouts

WASHINGTON (R) — President-elect Bush suggested Thursday that he was philosophically opposed to government intervention to curb corporate leveraged buyouts (LBOs).

"In the first place you're talking to one who would, as much as possible, rely on market forces," he told a news conference when asked about possible measures to slow LBOs, mergers and acquisitions.

Bush left the door open to possible tax code changes to crack down on any abuses.

"But I am not against bigness, I am not in favour of the government picking winners and losers... I am in favour of the government seeing that there is no abuse through the tax system," he said.

He referred specifically to the substitution of debt for equity, the basis of LBO deals, in which

investors borrow heavily to acquire a company. Ultimately, the new owners pay off the debt with the company's cash flow or through sales of some of its assets.

Congress is scrutinising these deals with an eye towards curbing them through possible changes in the deductibility of interest. Current law encourages companies to take on debt because it allows them to deduct their interest payments but not the dividends they pay on stock.

Critics are concerned that debt-burdened companies will be dangerously exposed to an economic downturn, ultimately undermining U.S. competitiveness.

Fortune magazine reported Wednesday that the total value of the 50 largest business deals last year was \$111.8 billion, surpassing the \$94.6 billion value of the 50 biggest in 1985, the previous record for Fortune's list.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, Jan. 12, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	77.8	78.2
U.S. dollar	484.0	486.0	Dutch guilder (for 100)	383.5	385.4
Pound Sterling	863.9	868.2	Swedish crown	77.5	77.9
Deutschemark	264.9	266.2	Italian lira (for 100)	36.1	36.3
Swiss franc	311.9	313.5	Belgian franc (for 100)	126.7	127.3

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	Jan. 7-11	Jan. 1-4
Daily average	JD 1,156,632	JD 653,271
Total volume	JD 5,783,164	JD 2,613,084
Total shares	3,786,418	1,951,200
No. of contracts	3,865	2,316

Sectoral trading:

Industrial	JD 3,956,869 (68.4%)	JD 1,853,356 (70.9%)
Financial	1,666,337 (28.8%)	JD 706,993 (27.0%)
Service	(3.7%)	(2.0%)
Insurance	(0.1%)	(0.1%)
Share price index	125.0	124.4
No. of companies	58	49
Price movement (rise)	34	22
(decline)	14	19
(stable)	10	8

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7710/20	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1990/2000	Canadian dollar
	1.8380/90	Deutschemark
	2.0740/50	Dutch guilders
	1.5675/85	Swiss francs
	38.48/51	Belgian francs
	6.2680/2730	French francs
	1351/1353	Italian lire
	126.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.2775/2875	Swedish crowns
	6.6800/6900	Norwegian crowns
	7.1150/1250	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	403.25/403.85	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares consolidated recent gains to end at an eight-week high. The All Ordinaries Index rose 11.3 points to 1,519.1, its highest since Nov. 16.

TOKYO — Shares ended with the Nikkei Index at a record close after a week of strong gains on bullish sentiment linked to the start of the new imperial era in Japan. The Nikkei Index rose 154.93 points, or 0.50 per cent, to 31,298.38.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed at the day's low on profit-taking after four consecutive post-crash highs. The Hang Seng Index ended the day 35.35 points lower at 2,843.98.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed lower with falls in excess of gains by 116 to 70 but the Straits Times Industrial Index managed a 3.88 point rise to 1,099.16 helped by gains in some index stocks.

BOMBAY — Shares fell for the third day in a row on reports the Finance Ministry is working out a strategy to mobilise taxes. Tata Steel fell 7.5 rupees to 1,138.75.

FRANKFURT — A crop of rumours swept through the market, combining with profit-taking on call-options to unsettle investors and push some shares lower. The Real-Time Dax Index closed at 1,353.24, or 5.49 points below the previous close.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed slightly firmer on moderate turnover, with activity centred on selected registered shares. The broad-based Swiss Performance Index rose 4.2 points to 975.1.

PARIS — French share prices ended slightly lower in moderately active business as the prospect of a strike by bourse employees Monday triggered a fresh wave of profit-taking. The 50-share bourse indicator ended 0.8 per cent lower.

LONDON — Shares were well below the day's highs, succumbing to profit-taking towards the end of the most active session for some time. By 1620 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was up 10.9 points to 1,861.7.

NEW YORK — Blue chips recovered some of their losses in morning trading as some earlier selling pressure eased. The Dow was about unchanged at 2222.

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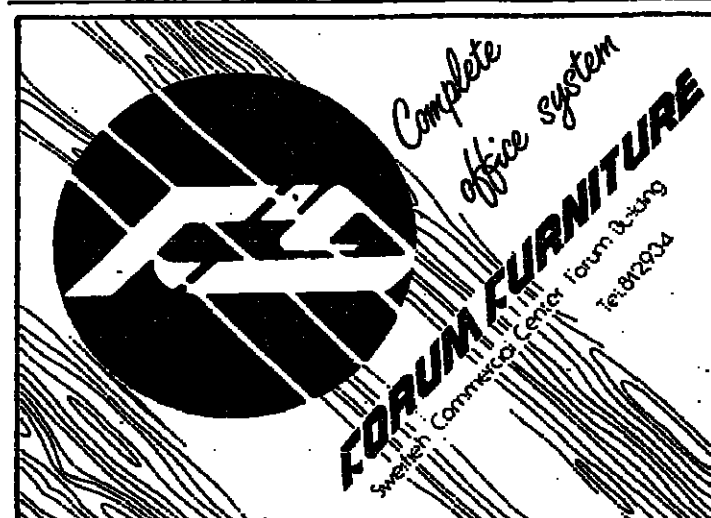


ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that courses in modern standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on the Jan. 28, and will last for 16 weeks. Two programmes will be offered:

1. An intensive programme in which classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. The fee for these courses is JD 140 per term.
2. A regular programme in which classes meet 6 hours per week (5:30-7:10 Saturday, Monday and Wednesday). The fee for these courses is JD 50 per term.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration.



Palestinian soccer team tours Europe

ROME (R) — A Palestinian national football side arrived in Italy Thursday to begin a European tour of sporting prowess and diplomacy.

The young amateur side, who have never played in Europe before, hope to persuade the International Olympic Committee to recognize Palestine before the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

But the footballers, aged between 19 and 21, will also have to fulfill a diplomatic role, meeting politicians and attending cultural events.

Apartment from the competitive aspect, this initiative has a clear political significance. It is part of a wide-ranging campaign to show that our people are more than just fighters," the Palestine Liberation Organisation's cultural attaché in Rome, Ammar Nassar, said.

The Palestinians have already won a small victory. After a persuasive telephone call from Italian Football Federation chief Antonio Matarrese to International Federation (FIFA) president Joao Havelange, FIFA agreed to suspend the rule forbidding members from playing against unrecognised sides.

"We hope we have made some

contribution towards detente," Italian Federation spokesman Antonio Valentini told a news conference. "After ping-pong diplomacy, we now have football diplomacy."

The ruling opened the way for matches next week against youth sides in Empoli and Livorno, as well as games Saturday against Italian and foreign journalists. Experts say the Palestine side are strongly favoured.

The 24-strong squad of factory hands, students and office workers play for amateur teams in Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"We have only been in training together properly for three weeks. It is difficult when they all play in different countries," Ahmed Afif, chief of the Tunis-based Palestine Football Federation, told the news conference. The squad has no members from the occupied Arab territories because of the difficulty of travelling and because sporting activity has stopped since the Palestinian uprising began.



A natural loser: Ari Vatanen trails Jacky Ickx despite the Peugeot company decision which decreed his win

Ickx takes lead by mistake in Paris-Dakar

PARIS (R) — Belgian driver Jacky Ickx, ordered by his Peugeot team to let teammate Ari Vatanen win the Paris-Dakar rally, accidentally took the lead Thursday — 24 hours before the end of the competition.

Ickx and his co-driver Christian Tarin gained five minutes 51 seconds on Vatanen during the 203 kms special timed stage between Koumpentoum and Linouere in Senegal, enough to displace the leading Finn and take a 20-second overall lead.

Explaining Ickx's surprise win Thursday, race officials said Vatanen apparently went off course during the stage. Ickx was leading the rally five days ago when Peugeot team chiefs decided the competition between him and Vatanen was exposing the pair to too many dangers. By the toss of a coin Vatanen was made number one driver and Ickx was ordered to let him win.

Other teams were already so far behind the leading two cars, no-one else had a remote chance of victory.

Provisional stage placings:

1. Jacky Ickx/Christian Tarin (Belgium) Peugeot 59 minutes 40 seconds penalty time
2. Jean Gabbay/Alain Gabbay (France) Toyota one minute 20 seconds behind
3. Guy Frequelin/Fenouil (France) Peugeot 2:20
4. Philippe Wamborgue/Alain Guehenec (France) Peugeot 3:20
5. Ari Vatanen/Bruno Berghud (Finland/Sweden) Peugeot 5:51
6. Jean Da Silva/Daniel Thomas (France) Mitsubishi 6:37
7. Patrick Tambay/Dominique Lemoine (France) Mitsubishi 9:20
8. Gerard Boin/Patrick Vargue (France) Peugeot 15:32
9. Klaus Seppi/Pelancani (Italy) Mercedes 15:37
10. Jerome Riviere/Claude Herve (France) Toyota 15:43

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Many will have difficulty directing their energy. It is a fun day to separate fact from fiction today. Daydreams can get confused with reality, producing impractical approaches to routine matters.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Study a challenging situation before acting. It is a fun day to make new friends and socialize. Keep an open mind to activities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): A difficult workload has you in a frenzy. The evening can be set aside for needed rest. A prosperous financial streak is in making.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): A fragile situation can worsen if you do not use good judgment. Your social charisma is powerful today. Surround yourself with friends.

NON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): You are appreciated, and someone demonstrates it. Positive attitudes and a sense of sharing put you high on the popularity list.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): While in your present creative mood, enjoy the arts. Avoid asking someone else to keep a secret. Adapt to a change in plans in the evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): People around you seem to be at

cross-purposes. Plan a pleasant weekend journey. Hot tempers cool regarding family matters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Personal time may be at a premium today. Choices must be made over a new romantic tie. Remember your plans for tomorrow and rest today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): A friend asks for help with a problem. Put energy into new contacts and exciting people. You can have it all when you are patient.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Your good business sense and originality lead to progress. Stay with familiar routines. Contact close friends for evening fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): This day will turn out better than it starts. You are overextended, but you will manage to complete the tasks on your full schedule.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): You have feelings for an affectionate friend. Try a new approach that is less demanding. Watch your cash flow, and curb spending.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Take advantage of a new situation. Focus on personal projects that need attention. Hobnob with a friend who has many original ideas.

World Cup qualifying matches

Iraq edges Jordan 1-0

By John West
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A fumble from Jordanian goalkeeper Milad Abbasi to a surprise 30 metre shot from Iraqi defender Ghanim Oraibi gave the Arab Cup champions a crucial 1-0 victory over Jordan's national team in Friday's World Cup qualifying match at the Royal Sports City.

Victory gave Iraq, the favourites in the qualifying group, a badly needed base to challenge for leadership after their unexpected draw with Oman last week. Qatar's goalless draw with Oman in Muscat, also Friday, leaves Iraq and Qatar tied on 3 points each but Iraq with a superior goal differential. Jordan remain at the bottom of the group, having lost both their matches.

The goal, which came in the 12th minute of the second half, broke the national side's concentration in what had been an even and aggressive match, and ruined a fine performance from Abbasi.

The vocal crowd, estimated at some 22,000 went home more mutely than it had arrived. Jordan had slightly the better of the opening exchanges, but failed to capitalise on their more frequent possession. In the 9th minute, Khalid Awad crossed to find Jihad Abdul Mun'am, who shot past the left post, which was

as close as they came to scoring. For the Iraqis, Husein Sa'id narrowly missed with a volley three minutes later, but otherwise the early action took place in mid-

field skirmishing. Competitive jostling and sloppy footwork on both sides led to Iraqi striker Ahmad Radi being booked in the 17th minute for a dangerous challenge to Abbasi, while in the second half Jordanian defender Zaid Shara'a was cautioned for a tackle on Jaafar Hadid. The referee, Jasim Mandi of Bahrain, fully lived up to his reputation as one of the finest in the Arab World by astute handling of the game. At one point, where every tackle seemed to be leaving at least one player prone on the ground, he called the

stretcher on immediately, which encouraged the stricken player to make a quicker recovery.

The Iraqis used their extra height to dominate the air, with both wingers getting good crosses in, and in the 32nd minute Radi smashed a rising shot against the Jordanian crossbar. It was only a narrow work by Abbasi which prevented an earlier Iraqi goal, as he made a couple of spectacular saves to shots from Radi.

Jordanian attacks rarely found the support they needed to maintain pressure on the Iraqi defence. In the last minute of the first half Yusuf Al Ammouri, finding himself in front of Iraqi keeper Ahmad Mohammad Jassim who had been drawn off his line, could have sidepassed for a virtually open goal had a colleague been square of him. He dallied until defender Adnan Darjal robbed him from behind.

Iraq proved far more imposing from the opening of the second half, which opened under a light drizzle that gradually intensified. In the first ten minutes the ball was rarely out of the Jordanian half, while in the 11th, Ahmad Radi lost out in a face-off with Abbasi. In the following minute, however, came Oraibi's goal, a long low straight shot straight at Abbasi, who let the ball slip through his hands. From then on, Iraq dominated.



Peaks and troughs: Milad Abbasi rising to one of his better moments Friday.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q63 ♥1083 ♦A2 ♣QJ954
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl 1 NT Pass
Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner's cue-bid is still for takeout—had he held a club suit, he would not have doubled originally. Therefore, you can't pass; you must bid your longer of the other three suits. Since you have to choose a three-card suit, make the cheaper bid—two hearts.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J9852 ♥102 ♦Q103 ♣A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT
What action do you take?
A.—You have just enough to invite game should partner have a spade fit and a maximum. To start, use the Stayman Convention by bidding two clubs to probe for a major-suit fit.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J9852 ♥102 ♦Q103 ♣A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Bid two spades. Since you could have bid two spades directly with a weak hand, this sequence is invitational and forcing to two no trump or three of your suit, assuming you are using the original version of the Stayman Convention. Partner can correct to no trump with a doubleton; raise to three spades with a minimum and three-card support, or four spades with a

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J9852 ♥102 ♦Q103 ♣A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—While your hand has been improved by the fact that partner has a four-card spade suit, you don't have enough to commit your side to game. Complete the invitational sequence by raising to three spades, asking partner to bid game with a maximum opening.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A76 ♥A10762 ♦K10854 ♣Void
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—If you find a fit, you are in slam territory. If not, you might not want to proceed beyond three no trump. A jump to three hearts could take the auction too high to allow for orderly investigation, so if two hearts is forcing in your methods, that's all you need do for the moment.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A76 ♥A10762 ♦K10854 ♣Void
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner does not have three hearts, so he must have at least three diamonds. Since a change of suit by you is forcing, just bid three diamonds to see what action partner takes.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"He's a hero! Once he threw his body over a donut to save a fellow dieter!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RYRUH
NOIBS
STRAIG
DROFEK



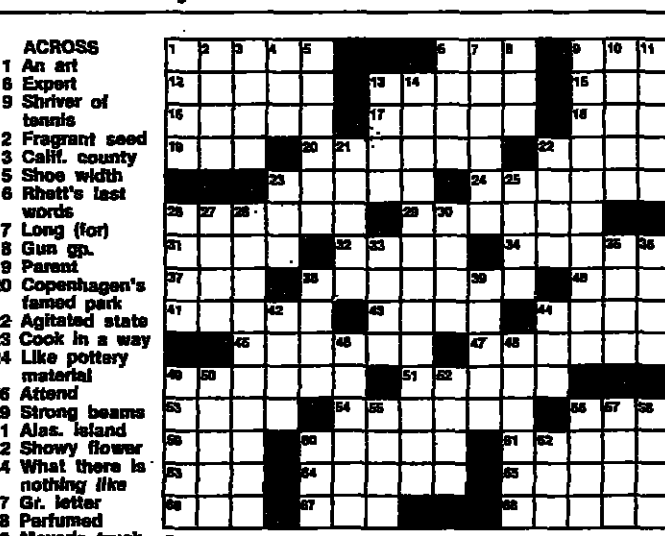
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: FLAKE BLOOM FUTURE TONGUE
Answer: How to silence a "loud" de—GET A "MUFFLER"

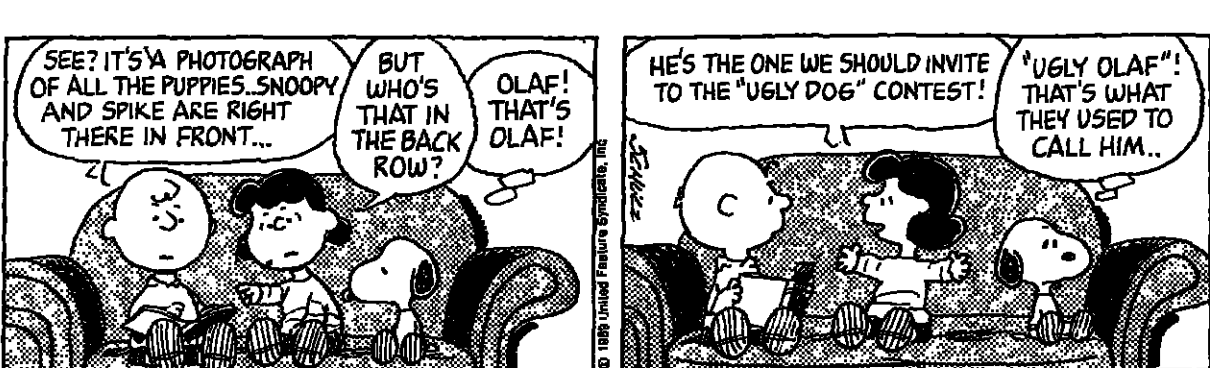
THE Daily Crossword

by Betty Jorgensen



- ACROSS**
- 1 An art
 - 2 Expert
 - 3 Shiver of
 - 4 tangle
 - 5 Fragrant seed
 - 6 Calif. county
 - 7 Shoe width
 - 8 Rhett's last words
 - 9 Long (for)
 - 10 Gun gp.
 - 11 Peanut
 - 12 Copenhagen's famed park
 - 13 Agitated state
 - 14 Cook in a way
 - 15 Like pottery material
 - 16 Afford
 - 17 Strong beams
 - 18 Alias, island
 - 19 Showy flower
 - 20 What there is nothing like
 - 21 Gr. letter
 - 22 Perfumed
 - 23 Mover's truck
 - 24 Hot sauce
 - 25 Dramatic conflict
 - 26 Be disposed
 - 27 Basketball team
 - 28 Soviet sea
 - 29 School subject
 - 30 Chemical suffix
 - 31 Earned copper
 - 32 High nest
 - 33 Pity
 - 34 Midpoint, Eng. team
 - 35 Clean rock
 - 36 Old-timer
 - 37 Type of architecture
 - 38 Gemstone
 - 39 Heat meas.
 - 40 Holy one
 - 41 Tennis Rod
 - 42 Sea eagles
 - 43 Low h. style
 - 44 Boy!
 - 45 Deep runner
 - 46 In re
 - 47 Enact
 - 48 Leo's pride
 - 49 Remnants
- DOWN**
- 1 Polite term of address
 - 2 Loosen
 - 3 Thailand
 - 4 Doctrine
 - 5 Basketball Eng. team
 - 6 Soviet sea
 - 7 School subject
 - 8 Chemical suffix
 - 9 Earned copper
 - 10 High nest
 - 11 Pity
 - 12 Midpoint, Eng. team
 - 13 Clean rock
 - 14 Old-timer
 - 15 Type of architecture
 - 16 Gemstone
 - 17 Heat meas.
 - 18 Holy one
 - 19 Tennis Rod
 - 20 Sea eagles
 - 21 Low h. style
 - 22 Boy!
 - 23 Deep runner
 - 24 In re
 - 25 Enact
 - 26 Leo's pride
 - 27 Remnants
 - 28 For Pete's —
 - 29 Related on mother's side
 - 30 Submerged
 - 31 Cruise
 - 32 Mystery awards
 - 33 Victim
 - 34 Piece of turf
 - 35 Sports center
 - 36 Choose
 - 37 Statues' floor
 - 38 Eng. river
 - 39 Staple
 - 40 Ocean
 - 41 Low: Lat.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Ministers meet to breathe the new life into Non-Aligned alliance

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Foreign ministers and officials of the Non-Aligned Movement sought ways to breathe the new life into their 28-year-old alliance as they opened a three-day meeting in Cyprus Friday.

The opening shots in what promised to be a lively debate were fired as Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou welcomed 210 delegates from 59 states attending the Nicosia meeting.

Several working papers calling for far-reaching procedural change were distributed, with some Non-Aligned Movement members criticising traditional decision-making and urging a reduction in the volume of communiqués, statements and declarations.

"I think we'll see differences emerge between conservatives and radicals over the structure of the movement," one Caribbean delegate told Reuters as the session began.

A southeast Asian delegation leader commented: "There's a general mood in favour of tightening procedures."

Kaddoumi welcomed

Farouk Kaddoumi was recognised as the representative of the state of Palestine at the opening of the conference.

Kaddoumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told the meeting that while streamlining its operations, the movement cannot lose sight of its goal of "ending colonialism."

It was the first such high-level meeting of the organisation since the Palestine National Council (PNC) declared an independent Palestinian state in November and delegates gave him a warm welcome. Iacovou descended from the podium to hug Kaddoumi.

Around 90 countries, many of them from the Non-Aligned Movement, have recognised Palestine, and Kaddoumi thanked them for their support. He expressed "gratitude for the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in strengthening the militancy of our Palestine people", in trying to establish a state in territory occupied by Israel.

While in Cyprus, the PLO representative was expected to set a date for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to accept an invitation from Cypriot President George Vassiliou for an official visit.

Foreign Minister Nathan Shanmugaratnam of Zimbabwe read a message from President Robert Mugabe, current head of the Non-Aligned Movement, calling for a permanent secretariat for the organisation.

In an era of rapid communication and rapid changes in international relations, Mugabe's statement said, "a permanent secretariat is needed to service the work of the chairman and the committees."

Iacovou, in his opening address, said the conference was designed to "make suggestions as to how the movement will become more effective and more dynamic."

At the foreign ministers' conference held in Nicosia last September, delegates complained that the organisation was bloated, churning out endless documents that nobody read and adopting resolutions that nobody followed.

The conference on updating the movement emerged from those complaints, with Iacovou chairing a steering committee.

Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao of India said the movement "is at a crossroads. One road leads to irrelevance, the other to the role it has played in contributing new ideas to international problems."

Budimir Loncar, foreign minister of Yugoslavia, the next head of the movement, said, "Our task here is to give it new meaning and transform its actions."

The foreign ministers of Cuba and Congo also spoke, stressing that modernisation of the movement should not overlook the need to solve pressing economic problems facing the world's poorer countries.

Mexico probes origin of Uzis

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican officials are investigating the origin of a cache of Uzi sub-machine guns and ammunition seized in a raid on the home of an oil union chief, who is charged with the murder of a federal agent.

Authorities said 200 sub-machine guns smuggled from the United States were found in the home of Joaquin Hernandez Galicia during a raid Tuesday in Ciudad Madero, 350 kilometres northeast of Mexico City.

Soldiers blew down the door of the house with a Bazooka. A federal agent was shot to death in the ensuing gunbattle prior to the arrest of Hernandez Galicia, leader of the powerful Oil Workers Union.

The government has not said what it thinks Hernandez Galicia planned to do with the weapons.

The Oil Workers Union, like most of the labour movement, is closely tied to the government. But Hernandez Galicia has had a longstanding feud with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Last week, the union chief

threatened to paralyse the Mexican oil industry if the government carried out a threat to sell the state petroleum monopoly Pemex to private investors.

Mexico is the world's sixth-largest crude oil producer and production from the country's nine refineries amounts to 1.4 million barrels a day. A barrel contains 160 litres.

Hernandez Galicia's arrest prompted strikes by union members that crippled the industry for a day. A union official called off the strike Wednesday.

Hernandez Galicia, among the bodyguards and 48 other jailed associates, was charged Thursday with homicide, weapons possession, importing prohibited weapons and resisting arrest. He faces 40 years in prison if convicted.

His associates are to be charged with frauds, weapons possession and tax evasion, judicial authorities say.

Hernandez Galicia, 66, told investigators that former Reynosa Mayor Jose Cruz Contreras secretly delivered the Uzis and

about 30,000 cartridges Dec. 10, according to a statement from the attorney general's office.

The source in the attorney general's office said Mexican authorities and U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Drug Enforcement Administration officials met Thursday to try to determine where the arms originated.

In a Mexico City prison Thursday, Hernandez Galicia said, "They told me my family was kidnapped and if I didn't give a statement that pleased the federal attorney general, I wouldn't see them again."

He told reporters his detention was "a dirty, prefabricated infamy."

Several thousand oil workers and supporters demonstrated for his release Thursday night in Mexico City's main plaza.

A bomb threat and rumours of more arrest forced union local chiefs to evacuate the union's national headquarters before they could vote to choose a new secretary-general.

Charges set in Pentagon case

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia (AP) — A defence contractor, a U.S. navy employee and five men faced arraignment Friday in U.S. district court on charges they conspired to fix Pentagon contracts by paying bribes for information.

Judge Richard Williams was set to preside over the arraignment stemming from the first indictments in the two-year-old investigation into allegations that private consultants and defence contractors illegally tried to manipulate the Defence Department's 150-billion-dollar-a-year purchasing system.

The defendants are Teledyne Electronics of California, a division of Teledyne Industries, navy purchasing specialist Stuart Berlin; private consultants Fred

Lackner and William Parkin; and three Teledyne employees, George Kaub, Eugene Sullivan and Dale Schnitzler.

The U.S. indictment issued in this Washington suburb charges them with conspiracy and bribery.

The indictment alleges that Teledyne Electronics and its employees paid Parkin to get details about a navy radar contract worth more than \$100 million. Parkin then paid Lackner, a consultant based in California, who in turn gave bribes to Berlin, the indictment says.

Prosecutors said Berlin's information played a role in landing the contract for Teledyne Electronics.

Berlin, Parkin and Lackner

Military honours Reagan

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Maryland (R) — President Reagan, flanked by new American weapons of war, was honoured Thursday in an elaborate farewell ceremony by the military that benefited from his record 2.5-trillion-dollar defence buildup.

A marine band played martial music as Reagan, who gives up power to President-elect Bush January 20, marched in review of honour guards representing the army, air force, marines, navy and coast guard in a huge hangar at Andrews Air Force Base on the outskirts of Washington.

Reagan, who presided over America's biggest peacetime military buildup, told the assembled 1,400 officers, personnel and civilians that being armed forces commander in chief "is the most sacred, most important task of the presidency."

He dedicated a moment of silence for the 595 servicemen who died on duty during his presidency, including victims of terrorism. "They are not with us today because they are at the right hand of God...they are our



Ronald Reagan

heroes," he said. In the glow of tributes from the Pentagon, which laid on the ceremony for one of its most beloved commanders, he said: "The gratitude of the nation, comfortable and at peace, properly goes not to me but to you."

The president, sent off into retirement by the marching tunes

of each service, looked on the verge of tears when the band played strains on Auld Lang Syne. He blinked and swallowed hard as he stood at attention for the goodbye.

In the background were some of the weapons that joined the U.S. arsenal during his eight years — an army Apache attack helicopter, a coast guard search and rescue helicopter, a navy F-18 fighter, a marine Harrier Jumpjet and a B-1B bomber.

Beneath a wing of the B-1B, a fierce-looking marine squad carrying automatic weapons stood at parade rest in camouflage battle dress, their faces blackened.

Marching in review was a unit of the army's old guard, a ceremonial fife and drum corps wearing red-coated war uniforms.

The ceremony, which began with a 21-gun salute, was forced inside the hangar by fog and rain. A fly-by of air force, navy, and marine fighter jets and army and coast guard helicopters was cancelled.

The Defence Department declined to estimate the cost of the ceremony.

After 35 days, six rescued from Armenian quake rubble

MOSCOW (AP) — Six men were rescued from the rubble of a nine-storey apartment building in Leninakan 35 days after the Armenian earthquake trapped them in a food cellar, TASS reported Thursday.

The survivors were found Wednesday, weeks after authorities gave up searching for survivors of the Dec. 7 quake that killed 25,000 people. One suffered a broken arm and the others only minor injuries, TASS said.

The report said the six were trapped in a basement used to store food, so they had plenty to eat and were able to move around. As the wreckage of the apartment house was being cleared, a ray of light penetrated the cell-sized room where the men were trapped, and they began to shout for help, said Andranik Iordanyan, duty officer at Hospital Number Three in Yerevan, where one of the survivors was taken.

"It was completely by accident," Iordanyan said, passing on information from survivor Aikaz Akopyan and Akopyan's sister, who met him as he emerged from the ruins.

Akopyan, speaking in a strained voice from his hospital bed, told Soviet television, "All my relatives had been standing there for a month, around the clock."

Iordanyan said he believed a French rescue team with a sniffer dog was involved, but this report was not certain. Authorities have been using "special" equipment and dogs in order to be convinced there are not people alive "as they clear the rubble, Evgeny Kutovoy, the charge d'affaires at the Soviet embassy in Washington, said Wednesday.

Rescuers last pulled a survivor from the wreckage Dec. 26, TASS said. Kutovoy said searchers have found 24,920 bodies in the ruins of three cities and more than 100 villages in northwest Armenia devastated by the quake.

Authorities gave up hope for survivors weeks ago, saying it was too late for anyone to remain alive in sub-freezing temperatures, presumably without food and water. Workers began bulldozing

the wreckage to prevent decaying bodies from spreading disease, despite protests from relatives and some rescue teams.

Iordanyan said the men were able to stand and move around in the dark basement, which was about eight square metres.

Karlen Sarkissyan had a broken arm and the others suffered only minor injuries, TASS reported. All were brought to Yerevan hospitals Thursday morning where they remained that evening, according to Iordanyan and TASS.

Akopyan had medical training and administered messages to the others to relieve the pain of their injuries, TASS said.

"On the day of the earthquake, I asked five neighbours to help me carry two heavy wooden kegs to the basement," Akopyan was quoted as telling TASS. "Just then, we suddenly heard a terrible roar. The Earth trembled, and walls began to collapse. I thought a war had started."

"It's true, we used the food sparingly," said Akopyan, a 50-year-old electrician. "After all, we had no idea what had happened, nor how long we would be entombed. We lost track of time completely. But we never doubted for a minute that we would be found and released," he was quoted as saying.

"I had only one thought — to do everything necessary so my young friends would not go crazy," Akopyan told TASS. "I entertained them, calmed them, sang, and told stories about my life."

He identified two of the other survivors as Rafik Simonyan and Vanik Khachatryan. He said he could not remember the names of the others.

In his brief television interview, Akopyan appeared very weak and said they eventually figured out there must have been an earthquake.

The quake levelled much of Leninakan, Armenia's second-largest city. Its population has dropped from 280,000 to 100,000 as thousands of survivors have been evacuated.

'Airplane cleaner' finds security a shambles

LONDON (AP) — A British reporter who got a job as an airplane cleaner at Heathrow airport said Friday his fake application was never checked and he was able to wander on and off a dozen jets where he could easily have planted a bomb.

Transport Secretary Paul Channon has asked for a report on the front-page story in Friday's Daily Express by reporter Graham Dudman, who called security at the airport a shambles.

Dudman said he decided to apply for a cleaning job at the airport after a bomb blew up Pan Am Flight 103 Dec. 21, killing all 259 people on board and 11 in the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

The New York-bound flight originated in Frankfurt with a Boeing 727 and switched to a larger Boeing 747 at Heathrow. Channon ordered stepped-up security at all British airports following the crash as investigators tried to determine where the bomb was planted.

Dudman said he was hired by Skyline Services, a private cleaning contractor, after a 10-minute interview Jan. 4. He said his application, which contained many fictitious facts, was never checked and he was given a laminated pass that allowed him virtually free access to all areas of the airport.

"As a part-time aircraft cleaner, it enabled me to board 12 jetliners on any one of which I could have planted a bomb under a seat or in a locker," he said. "I gained unchallenged access to luggage containers and the cabin and flight decks of trans-Atlantic airlines where at times I was alone and unsupervised," he said.

After he started work Jan. 9, Dudman said, he carried bulky packages and a camera past security posts; and was never stopped or questioned, even when he took photographs on the airfield. Several appeared in the paper including one of the reporter posing by a container of Pan Am luggage.

After the indictment was made public, the Defence Department suspended Berlin without pay and barred Teledyne Electronics from doing business with any agency of the government.



Idi Amin

KINSHASA (R) — Zaire sent deposed Ugandan dictator Idi Amin back into exile in Saudi Arabia Thursday.

Amin was arrested in Kinshasa last week after trying to slip back into Africa under a false name.

Zaire sends Ugandan dictator back into exile

Amin and his son were put on a Zairean government plane to Dakar in Senegal to catch a scheduled Saudia Airlines flight to Jeddah, a government official told reporters at Kinshasa airport.

Reporters were not allowed to speak to Amin, who walked stern-faced to the Falcon 50 aircraft of the state mining company Gecamines for the five and-a-half hour flight to Dakar.

"We do not want to give him a platform," a Zairean official said.

Amin, a former army boxing champion who became one of Africa's most ruthless dictators, ruled Uganda for eight years until he was toppled by Ugandan exiles and Tanzanian troops in 1979.

Nicknamed "big daddy," he was portrayed as a butcher and buffoon by the international media.

He arrived in Zaire with one son Jan. 3 carrying a stolen Zairean passport, the official said.

He was kept from the press at Kinshasa's Ndjili Military Air Base throughout his stay in Zaire.

The official did not say why Amin, 61, had tried to return to Africa.

One of Amin's wives lives in Kinshasa with some of his children and his brother is a truck driver here.

Diplomats in Kinshasa said his presence was an embarrassment to Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, who had close links with the former leader.

From his plane Amin could see the aircraft which brought a special envoy Wednesday from Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni asking for him to be sent back to Kampala.

Zairean officials had ruled this out because there is no extradition treaty between the two countries.

Uganda wants to question Amin about massacres and human rights abuses.

Researchers say new fluoride treatment reverses bone loss

DALLAS (AP) — A substance long used by dentists to strengthen teeth is a key part of an experimental treatment that appears to safely curb spinal osteoporosis, a progressive bone disorder, U.S. researchers say.

University of Texas Southwestern Medical School researchers Thursday announced results from a seven-year trial of the new treatment on 251 patients.

Doctors say spinal osteoporosis results from a gradual loss of a type of bone found primarily in the spine. It most commonly affects elderly women and results in shortened stature and curvature of the back.

The treatment employs a slow-release form of sodium fluoride, a compound used by dentists to strengthen teeth which — when given with calcium citrate — can reverse the effects of osteoporosis by adding bone mass, said Dr. Charles Pak of Southwestern Medical Centre.

Pak said fluoride has been

available as an osteoporosis treatment for decades but caused serious side effects, including corrosion of the stomach lining, painful swelling of the joints and stress fractures.

"These complications have precluded the long-range acceptance of use of fluoride in the United States," said Pak. "Our treatments have been designed to overcome these problems."

In the new treatment, fluoride is encapsulated in a waxy pill that allows it to bypass the stomach before much of the compound is released. That helps alleviate gastrointestinal discomfort and allows the fluoride to be absorbed slowly into the blood, at an effective but not toxic rate, Pak said.

Each year, an estimated 500,000 Americans suffer osteoporosis spine fractures, and a third of U.S. women over age 65 will have spinal fractures during their lives, the Southwestern researchers said.

"Treatments such as estrogen

and calcium supplements, which are directed at preventing bone loss, are useful in averting the development of osteoporosis when they are applied early, such as during the early postmenopausal period," said Pak. "But they have limited value in patients with established osteoporosis, who have already sustained a substantial bone loss. Our treatment is directed toward the latter group."

Pak said the treatment, which has been conducted on experimental basis at 10 hospitals around the United States does not reverse spinal curvature or other damage, but does increase bone mass and forestall further breakage.

He said it cannot be used by people who have sustained hip fractures because of differences in the makeup of hip bones.

Pak said he plans to apply to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in April for approval of the treatment.

COLUMN

Passionate kissing is not safe sex

CHICAGO (R) — A kiss is just a kiss, or is it? Italian researchers said Thursday a study of 45 couples showed passionate kissing can result in the spread of blood-borne diseases, including AIDS. Writing in the journal of the American Medical Association from Naples, the doctors said passionate kissing, which they defined as open-mouthed and lasting a few minutes, should not be considered a sexual activity safe from spreading AIDS. "The intense rubbing that takes place during kissing favours this passage, and if the blood of one partner is infective, human immunodeficiency virus can pass into the blood stream of the other partner," said Dr. Marcello Piazzi, who along with several colleagues delivered a paper on the subject late last year to the Italian Society for Experimental Biology.

Chapman leads in Grammy nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Singer-songwriter Tracy Chapman and Bobby McFerrin led the field in nominations for the 31st annual Grammy Awards Thursday, with six for Chapman and five for McFerrin. Chapman, whose debut album was a surprise hit in 1988, garnered nominations for best new artist, best album, best song and best record for "Fast Car," best female pop performance for the same song, and best contemporary folk recording for the entire album, named after herself. McFerrin, whose "Don't Worry Be Happy" was the first ever non-instrumental to reach number one position on billboard charts, received nominations for best song, record and male pop vocal performance for "Don't Worry," plus an album nomination for "Simple Pleasures." McFerrin also received best male jazz vocal performance for the song "Brothers." George Michael, whose smash album "Faith" sold more than six million copies and spawned six hits, received two nominations from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Other top nominees were Anita Baker with four and Sting and Steve Winwood with three each.

Fergie named worst dressed

LOS ANGELES (R) — The Duchess of York, the former Sarah Ferguson, was named the worst-dressed woman of the year Wednesday by fashion designer Richard Blackwell. "She looks terrible, like she should be making beds on the second floor of a motel," said Blackwell, issuing his 29th annual list of worst-dressed women. "She should cut that stupid hair off. She looks more like a horse that came in last," he told a press conference. The duchess, known as "Fergie," is known for her fondness for frills and wide-brimmed hats. "The palace milkmaid strikes again," Blackwell declared. The duchess's sister-in-law Princess Diana, the Princess of Wales, was Blackwell's worst-dressed woman of 1982. The list issued by Blackwell Wednesday: 1. Duchess of York. 2. Imelda Marcos (wife of ex-president Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines) — "an over-the-hill actress auditioning for Evi-ta." 3. Debra Winger (actress) — "Winger gives fashion the finger." 4. Madonna (rock singer) — "helpless... hopeless... and horrendous." 5. Marilyn Quayle (wife of Vice President-elect Dan Quayle) — "a 1940 unemployed librarian." 6. Shirley Temple Black (former child film star) — "from the good ship lollipop to the titanic non-stop." 7. Lisa Marie Presley, Carrie Hamilton and Katie Wagner (daughters of Elvis Presley, Carol Burnett, and Robert Wagner) — "a trio of fashion terrors."

Broken back goes to work

MONROE (AP) — The North-east Louisiana University vice president for business affairs has not let a broken back spoil his record of 35 years without missing work because of illness. Robert Robinson moved his bed into the financial affairs office at the university, where he can follow doctor's orders to remain flat on his back until the fracture heals. "He told me to stay in bed, but he didn't say where," said Robinson. Robinson broke his back during the Christmas holidays. While he was doing carpentry work, a scaffold collapsed, dropping him 12 feet to the ground. The fall caused a compression fracture of the second lumbar vertebra, one of the bones in the spinal column.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Rightist sends finger to Takeshita

TOKYO (R) — A Tokyo rightist cut off his little finger and sent it to Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in protest over what he called politicians' lack of decorum in mourning for the late Emperor Hirohito. The finger was accompanied by a letter which said: "I perform this rite of self-purification and offer up my finger to pray for the repose of the emperor's soul," police said Friday. Hirohito died Jan. 7 at age 87. It was not clear when Takeshita's office received the grisly parcel. Police said the unidentified man, a member of a right-wing organisation, was under investigation for illegal possession of a sword.

Papandreou's popularity drops

ATHENS (R) — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, whose government has been battered by recent scandals, has suffered a sharp drop in popularity but disaffected voters are not flocking to his main opposition rival, an opinion poll showed Thursday. Papandreou was chosen by only 34.5 per cent of those polled in the Athens-Piraeus area where almost half of the country's 10 million people live, compared with the 44.8 per cent his Pasok Socialist Party won in the area in the 1985 general election.

Arevalo laments peace talks delay

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo is lamenting the postponement of a Central American presidential peace summit originally scheduled for this Sunday in El Salvador. Cerezo, arriving in Guatemala Thursday after a trip to the United States, said that the delay should have been decided by a majority vote of the presidents who were to participate. The meeting also was to include the presidents of El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras. In his brief statements to reporters at the international airport in Guatemala City, Cerezo said that despite the delay he still was optimistic about future peace talks. It was the Guatemalan president's first official response to the postponement.

Australia offers reward for killer

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — The government Friday offered a 250,000 dollar reward, one of the largest in the country's history, for clues to the execution-style murder of a top Australian police officer. Justice Minister Michael Tate announced the reward after the killing Tuesday of assistant Federal Police Commissioner Colin Winchester at his home in Canberra, the federal capital.

Liberian tanker charged with dumping

ST JOHN'S, Newfoundland (R) — A Liberian-registered tanker has been charged with dumping oil into Placentia Bay in southern Newfoundland, killing at least 400 birds. Authorities did not know how much oil was dumped but it was a thick, tar-like variety regarded as the worst type in a spill because it did not dissipate and sometimes sank, a spokesman for the government agency environment Canada said. Charges were brought Thursday night against the Northern Dancer after the coast guard analysed oil samples from the tanker and the birds, first found by residents Tuesday.

Hudson's lover has nightmares

LOS ANGELES (R) — The former homosexual lover of Rock Hudson said Thursday his fears of having contracted AIDS from the late actor give him nightmares. Marc Christian, 35, who has filed a \$10 million lawsuit against Hudson's estate, has so far tested negative for infection with the fatal disease. But he told a superior court jury he still suffers "horrible anxiety" because of the long incubation period of the virus. "I have nightmares about looking the way Rock did, like a cadaver. I can't see anything without relating it to AIDS," he said, adding that he examines his body for symptoms every morning. Christian, a former bartender, alleges Hudson and others conspired to conceal the actor's infection with AIDS, which was diagnosed in June 1984. The two continued to have sex after the illness was diagnosed.